THE TIMES

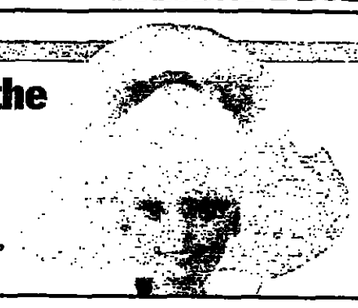
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No. 65,448 TUESDAY DECEMBER 12 1995

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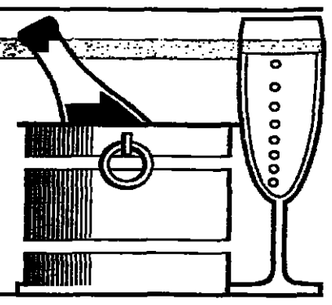
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There is always a bottom line... In what way can I help you, Richard?

Regulator 'did not know of bribe claim'

BY ALEXANDRA FREAN, ARTHUR LEATHLEY AND ALICE THOMSON

THE National Lottery watchdog denied last night that he had been told of an attempt to bribe Richard Branson to withdraw from the contest to run the competition.

Peter Davis, Director General of Oflot, also denied any impropriety in accepting free flights around America from a company with a stake in Camelot when the scratchcard contract had still to be awarded.

Mr Davis was answering questions from members of the Commons Public Accounts Committee as the BBC prepared to broadcast Mr Branson's bribery allegations on its *Panorama* programme.

In the programme, Mr Branson said that the bribery attempt had been made during a lunch at his London home in September 1993. The Virgin chief said that Guy Snowden, chairman of the American GTech lottery corporation which owns a stake in Camelot, had told him that his consortium stood to lose hundreds of millions of pounds if it had to compete with Mr Branson to win the lottery.

Mr Branson said that Mr Snowden had continued: "Well, I don't know how to phrase this, Richard. There is always a bottom line. I'll get to the point. In what way can I help you, Richard? I'm sure everybody needs something."

Mr Branson, further alleged last night that he had received a telephone call that afternoon from Sir Tim Bell, the public relations expert who acts for



Peter Davis: admitted taking free flights



Guy Snowden: stake in Camelot

GTech, trying to play down Mr Snowden's offer. Mr Branson said: "Sir Tim spoke to me about the conversation that I had had earlier in the day with Guy Snowden. The gist of what he had to say was that Guy had overstepped his mark." Sir Tim refused to comment on the allegation.

Mr Branson, who is on business in Japan, also said that he had raised the matter with Mr Davis the following May — soon after the lottery contract had been given to Camelot — in the presence of his solicitor, Gerard Tyrrell, and John Jackson, the Sketchley chief executive, who had been at the lunch with Mr Snowden.

Mr Jackson, who helped Mr Branson to set up the unsuccessful UK Lottery Foundation, confirmed that he had witnessed both incidents. He said that he had no doubt that Mr Snowden was offering Mr Branson a bribe to persuade him not to bid during the sweet course. "I was a witness to the conversation and I stand by what Richard has said to *Panorama* of that meeting. It was very apparent what was said and Richard closed the meeting soon afterwards."

Mr Jackson went on to say: "Gerard Tyrrell and I were present when Richard raised the matter with Peter Davis in the context of the wider issues of why the Lottery Foundation had not been selected. At that time, Peter Davis said that in his dealings with GTech, they had behaved perfectly properly. His investigations had given them a clean bill of health."

Mr Branson said that he had broached the subject with Mr Davis at the start of a meeting in May. "I mentioned that I felt it was strange that he would award the lottery to a company that he had gone to the lengths of trying to bribe someone not to bid for the lottery. He said that they had been checked by MI5 and some other organisations."

Mr Davis emphatically denied yesterday that he had been told of the bribery allegations and said that witnesses at his meeting with Mr Branson would confirm that they had not been mentioned. He also told MPs that he thought it strange that Mr Branson had decided to make his allegations two years after the event.

Camelot and GTech also reject Mr Branson's version of events, but he said he was prepared to take them on in court. "Our lawyers are standing by to receive their writs. We are prefectly prepared to defend what we said and we stand by it. We would welcome an airing of these issues in the courts. Mr Branson said

Continued on page 2, col 6

CHRIS HARRIS



Richard Branson says he was offered bribe to drop his bid to run the lottery

Howard issues 'white list' to beat logjam in asylum cases

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

MICHAEL HOWARD stepped up the Government's attack on bogus asylum seekers yesterday when he named the countries he plans to place on the so-called "white list" of nations deemed safe from political persecution.

The Home Secretary told MPs that people arriving from Bulgaria, Cyprus, India, Ghana, Pakistan, Poland and Romania would be presumed not to face a serious risk and their cases would be considered under a "fast track" procedure. As expected, Algeria and Nigeria were not on the list.

Mr Howard said that the measures were necessary to protect the rights of genuine asylum seekers and to halt the "massive" abuse of the system by bogus claimants. The Home Office later released figures showing that there have been 2,380 applications from India this year, 2,130 from Pakistan, 1,530 from Ghana, 940 from Poland, 570 from Romania, 350 from Bulgaria and 80 from Cyprus. The overwhelming majority were refused.

But Amnesty International said there were serious concerns about the human rights records of some of the countries on the list and Jack Straw, the Shadow Home Secretary, said asylum seekers from designated countries would face an almost impossible burden of proof.

Under the provisions of the Asylum and Immigration Bill, given its second reading last night, the Home Secretary would have power to designate countries as not giving rise to a serious risk of persecution. Mr Howard said that for countries to be included, they would have to generate significant numbers of asylum claims and a very high proportion of those claims would have to be unfounded. People from countries on the list would still be dealt with case by case and they could appeal to an independent adjudicator, although they would lose the right of further appeal to the Immigration Appeal Tribunal.

Mr Howard said inclusion on the list did not mean the country concerned was necessarily considered "universally safe" or had political and judicial systems which met with Western standards. "What we will be saying is that a country has functioning institutions, stability and pluralism in sufficient measure to support an assessment that in general people living there are not at risk," he said.

He dismissed suggestions that the measure was immoral. "It is not immoral to protect our asylum procedures against the current massive level of abuse. It is not immoral to declare that in our judgment some countries do not give rise to a serious risk of persecution," he said.

But Mr Straw said: "The proposed white list would treat any applicant from the countries on the list in bulk, unless the individual could meet what in even well-founded cases may be an almost impossible burden of proof."

Brian Dooley of Amnesty International opposed the list in principle and said there were concerns about some of the countries on it. He said the organisation had received reports of 130 deaths in custody in India last year. There were also reports of thousands of people detained on political grounds, of torture, and the disappearance of detainees.

Howard denial, page 10

Conveyancing costs could rise

A curb on conveyancing by cut-price solicitors could double the legal fees charged to housebuyers, the Consumers' Association has said. Law Society officers are proposing that a new level of charge is necessary to maintain standards of quality.

Low-cost solicitors are accused of cutting legal corners. Under the plans, a solicitor who charges below an official guideline would not be covered by the profession's indemnity insurance.. Page 6

Juppé concession

Alain Juppé, the French Prime Minister, has announced that the Government would hold meetings next week with all union leaders on the entire range of employment issues.

Earlier, striking French unions widened their demands after a series of meetings between M Juppé and union leaders ended in deadlock..... Page 12

Shephard calls unions to school security summit

BY JOHN O'LEARY AND PHILIP WEBSTER

THE Education Secretary, Gillian Shephard, last night called the six teaching unions to a "summit" on school security after the fatal stabbing of Phillip Lawrence, the London headmaster.

She met leaders of Mr Lawrence's union, the Secondary Heads' Association, at a previously arranged meeting yesterday. Discussion was overshadowed by Friday's murder.

Officials are trying to arrange a meeting before the end of the week. Government guidelines on school security, due for publication early in the new year, may be postponed if fresh proposals emerge at the talks. Mrs Shephard said: "Many have said that our schools should not be turned into fortresses, nor should they. But there are measures to be discussed and experiences shared."

Praising Mr Lawrence's bravery and dedication, Mrs Shephard said: "Everyone will wish to pay tribute to his courage and selflessness, and to grieve with his family, friends and colleagues."

The heads' association asked the Secretary of State to champion tighter controls on the carrying of knives and other offensive weapons.

Tony Blair, speaking to the Board of Deputies of British Jews yesterday, described Mr Lawrence's death as a cruel reminder of the "frightening barbarism" that scars many parts of Britain. He said that teaching children to be responsible citizens should be part of the ethos of every school. He proposed in his London speech a new subject called "lessons for life" to help young people to play a full part in the community. He also suggested student elections to school councils to allow pupils to participate in the good running of their schools.

Speaking of Mr Lawrence's death, the Labour leader said: "There is a lack of moral purpose, of moral direction, which can be reflected in almost any part of our national life." That posed a question not just for politicians but also for religious leaders. "It means confronting the public with hard choices about the responsibilities of each of us to help in this task."

Triad gangs blamed, page 5
Libby Purves, page 18
Leading article and Letters, page 19

Nuclear station plans scrapped

BY OUR BUSINESS STAFF

PLANS to build two new nuclear power stations, creating thousands of jobs, have been abandoned following the industry's privatisation, it was announced yesterday.

British Energy said it would not proceed with proposals to build Sizewell C in Suffolk or Hinkley C in Somerset. The new station at Sizewell would have cost £3 billion and the station at Hinkley almost £2 billion.

The decision delighted anti-nuclear campaigners who last night predicted the death of nuclear power. But unions were dismayed at the lost job opportunities and accused the company of "throwing in the towel" ahead of the industry's privatisation next summer. British Energy will own Nuclear Electric when the company is privatised.

Dr Robert Hawley, chief executive of British Energy, said: "At present the future of UK energy prices is insufficiently certain for British Energy to invest in new nuclear or, indeed, in any other form of new generation in the short term."

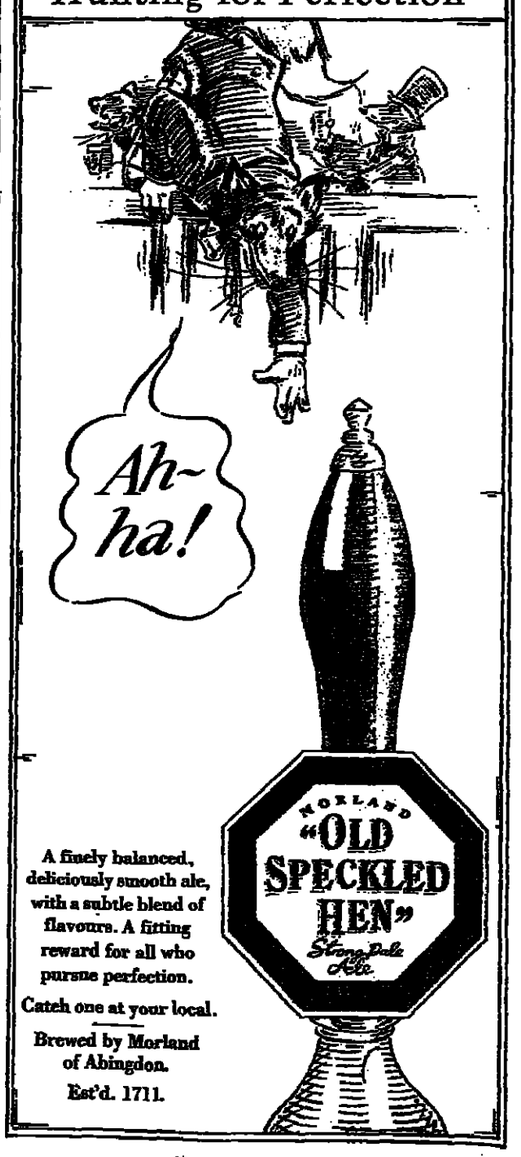
The Sizewell station would have taken seven years to build and created up to 6,000 construction jobs in the area, as well as another 8,000 throughout the country. The station would have employed 450 operating staff.

The new station at Hinkley would have created around 4,500 construction jobs over a six-year period.

Nuclear Electric said there will be no direct job losses at the company as a result of yesterday's decision.

Plans abandoned, p25
Tempus, page 28

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Tour firms drop holidays to keep prices high

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

TOUR operators have dropped 1½ million holidays from next summer's brochures to keep prices high and prevent customers from snapping up last-minute bargains.

Airtours, Britain's second largest tour operator, disclosed yesterday that the industry had raised prices by 10 per cent and reduced capacity by 14 per cent to create a shortage. First Choice, its rival, announced last month that it was scrapping 16 per cent of its holidays to try to match supply more closely with demand.

David Crossland, the chairman of Airtours, said that he was prepared to cut the number of holidays even further in the spring if demand remained flat.

The move follows one of the worst years on record for the industry. Sales collapsed because of poor consumer confidence and the heatwave.

"In my 32 years in travel it was one of the worst years I have seen," he said. "Tour operators normally make £19 per person per package profit, but this year they made only £9.50. Many last-minute breaks were sold at a loss.

"The prospects for 1995-96 are dependent upon the willingness of UK tour operators to ensure that capacity is held in line with demand."

He predicted that 8½ million people would take a summer holiday next year, roughly the same number as in 1993. Last year about 11 million people went abroad, with 10 million taking a break this summer. Bookings for the industry are now 30 per cent lower than this time last year, he said.

A spokesman for First Choice said: "We do not want a repeat of this year when a huge glut of holidays was discounted in peak season."

Lunn Poly, Britain's largest high street retailer of package holidays, said that Spain, Turkey and Florida would be the most popular destinations for holidaymakers next summer.

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What a big Asylum Bill you have, Grandmother

MATTHEW PARRIS
POLITICAL SKETCH

THE Jackal Loophole, explained Labour's earnest, fair-minded Jeff Rooker (Perry Bar) yesterday, is the use "of birth certificates for creating false personalities".

MPs were debating the Asylum and Immigration Bill, and Mr Rooker was disappointed that this Bill does nothing to close the Jackal Loophole. Facing the worried Rooker as he explained his concerns were the smiling features of Michael Howard, the Home Secretary.

Readers who remember, as children, hearing for the first time the story of Red Riding Hood and the Wolf will recall that moment of horror when all at once it dawns on Little Red Riding Hood, who had supposed herself to be chatting to her caring grandmother, that the creature in the bonnet and nightie is actually the dreaded Big Bad Wolf.

In just the same way it may have occurred to poor Jeff Rooker, half way through his plea over the dreaded Jackal Loophole, that he was addressing the Jackal.

The Right Hon Michael "J" Howard, too, has created a false personality. Up in Blackpool, not seven weeks ago, some of us encountered a rabid creature stalking the boards of the rostrum at the Winter Gardens during the Conservative conference there. The encounter was disturbing. Cackling and snarling, this political scavenger was tearing at a few scraps of old meat left over from the immigration controversies of the 1970s and 1980s.

From time to time he would raise his offal-flecked chops to the bloodthirsty crowd for applause. The Jackal snarled at the judiciary, savaged the parole system and took a nip at the Labour Party, challenging it to a fight. Growling, he worried away at the provision of asylum for refugees. To further applause he promised carnage in the coming Queen's Speech. This was a mean and dangerous beast, we felt sure.

That was until we saw him at the Dispatch Box yesterday. Could it be the same creature? In soft and caring tones he told Julian Brazier (C, Canterbury) that it was "precisely" to speed up consideration of the claims of *genuine* refugees that the bogus ones were to be tossed so speedily aside. A new Asylum Bill: all the better to help you with, my dear. We pictured Mr Howard's bonnet and nightdress.

New curbs on illegal immigrants? All the better to foster good race relations, my dear. A crackdown on employers of these people? All the better "to protect employment opportunities for those entitled to live here", my dear. An end to housing benefit for asylum-seekers? All the better to help "hard-pressed housing authorities", my dear.

And there was to be a new offensive against racketeers. "I am very concerned about racketeers." A criminal offence was to be created: all the better to punish those "who prey on people who are often poor and illiterate", my dear.

Jeff Rooker wondered whether the Bill could also close off the Jackal Loophole. Could Mr Howard stop people creating false personalities? The Jackal smiled. "I *very* much sympathise with the hon gentleman's concerns" (my dear), he simpered. But it was not *quite* within this particular Bill's ambit.

Mr Howard smiled again. Was it the flash of those incisor teeth? Was it that tuft of fur peeking from under the bonnet? Or was it the errant whisker, quivering as he spoke feelingly of the "unfortunate clients of racketeers" stowed into cargo holds? Something — we could not say what — wasn't quite right.

Little Jeff Riding Hood dropped his picnic basket and ran.

Britain expels Libyan diplomat

Libya's most senior diplomat in Briton has been expelled by the Foreign Office after being accused of intimidation and surveillance of Libyan dissidents (Stewart Tendler writes). Khalifa Ahmed Bazelya has been told to leave the country by December 25 for activities incompatible with his status as a diplomat, the Foreign Office said yesterday. He has been working as head of the Libyan interests section of the Saudi Arabian Embassy, which acts for the Gaddafi regime in Britain.

Two weeks ago Scotland Yard launched a murder inquiry into the death of Ali Mehmed Abuzeid, a leading Libyan dissident, in his grocery shop in west London. Friends said he had reported receiving threats and intimidating telephone calls. Yesterday the Foreign Office denied any link between the expulsion and the murder inquiry. It is understood that Mr Bazelya was suspected of gathering information over a long period.

Test for pupils

Primary school pupils may have to take a national test in mental arithmetic as part of measures to raise standards in mathematics announced yesterday by Gillian Shephard. The Education and Employment Secretary has already approved a ban on calculators in one test for 11-year-olds next summer and is proposing a mental arithmetic test for the age group.

American fined

An American tourist with only two days' driving experience in Britain was fined £800 by magistrates in Whitby, North Yorkshire, yesterday for causing an accident in which a couple died. Arthur Smith, 63, and his wife Anne, 58, died after their car was hit by a minibus driven by Gregory Snow, 60, a lawyer from Michigan who admitted careless driving.

Meningitis death

Judith Holford, 50, a nurse, died of meningococcal septicaemia, the blood infection associated with meningitis, yesterday in the Royal Bournemouth Hospital. Five pupils from Shotton Hall Comprehensive in Peterlee, Co Durham, have also been admitted to Hartlepool General Hospital in the past five days suffering from meniagitis. One is "poorly".

Flu cases up 69%

Flu levels were up by 69 per cent nationally last week compared to the same period last year, according to the drug company SmithKline Beecham. The Midlands and North West region were taking the brunt of the epidemic with a 98 per cent rise, with the South East close behind. Levels were also high in Yorkshire, the North East and London.

Actress in court

The actress Frances Barber was cleared of headbutting a policewoman and trying to bite her after being caught driving while nearly three times over the alcohol limit. Barber, 38, was stopped in June after leaving the night-club Tramp in London. She admitted drink-driving and was fined £1,200 and banned for 20 months by Clerkenwell magistrates.

Sheriff ruled out

A Scottish sheriff said he could not sentence a man who admitted housebreaking after he discovered his was the home the accused had broken into. Sheriff Andrew Bell was due to sentence Richard Cheyne for four theft charges but told Edinburgh Sheriff Court he was unable to continue. Cheyne, 28, was later jailed for three years by another sheriff.

Self-defence cases to be reviewed

Police to take softer line on charging 'have a go heroes'

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE Crown Prosecution Service is expected to issue new guidelines to police, warning them against rushing charges against "have a go heroes" who hit out in self-defence.

The guidelines, which also aim to eradicate regional variations in charging practice, are being drawn up after a review by the CPS at the request of Michael Howard, the Home Secretary.

There have been a series of high-profile prosecutions of people who have found themselves in court after tackling a burglar or other criminal attacking their homes or property.

Last month Mr Howard told the Police Superintendents' Association that people who use violence to defend themselves should be treated more sympathetically. He asked the CPS to look at charging practice in such cases as part of its wider review — already under way — of the new national charging standards on assault. It is expected to tell police to consider "have a go" cases carefully, taking all the circumstances into account.

Police will also be urged to consult the CPS when in any doubt at the earliest possible stage, rather than have a case proceed and then be discontinued. The review is expected to report in the new year.

At present, the law allows for a person to use "reasonable force" in defence of himself or his property. But there is no consistency in charging.

Gary Slapper, a lecturer in law at Staffordshire University, says: "The problem is that the application of the law is vexed by a variety of regional and local interpretations by police officers of what amounts to reasonable conduct by someone trying to uphold the law."

The CPS is also carrying out a review of its new national charging standards for assault charges, before extending these to public order offences, road traffic offences and drugs offences. A spokesman said: "We are looking at how effective these have been and whether the standards need updating."

The national guidelines, produced in a joint venture by the CPS and police, were aimed at removing inconsistencies in charging practice between police forces. The question of what to charge people with has traditionally been one of the most acrimonious between the CPS and the police. Prosecutors say police are prone to press charges higher up the scale than they need to such as actual bodily harm instead of common assault.

But there has been some concern among victim support groups that the new standards have led to a downgrading of charges. They believe that serious injuries which before might have been categorised as actual bodily harm are now being charged as common assault.

Neil Addison, a barrister in private practice and a former crown prosecutor, said: "The charging standards are a good idea — they bring openness about charging and will, I hope, raise standards. But the fear is that offences are being charged as common assault which before would have been charged as actual bodily harm — offences involving bruising, cuts and so on."

Law, page 39

TIM OCKENDEN



Sergeant Tim Cowley being welcomed by his wife Sandra and son Matthew at Heathrow yesterday

Bullets flew during jungle rescue

BY KATHRYN KNIGHT

A BRITISH Embassy aide who was held captive in the Colombian jungle for four months by political extremists flew home yesterday and was reunited with his wife and three-year-old son.

Looking tired but fit, Staff Sergeant Tim Cowley, 32, described how his captivity at the hands of left-wing guerrillas ended amid gunfire and grenades when Colombian National Police troops stormed the jungle to rescue him.

Sergeant Cowley, from Hull, an assistant to the defence attaché at the Embassy in Bogotá, had spent two years working in Colombia as part of the Adjutant-General's Corps. His kidnap by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia group on August 12 came at the end of a day birdwatching with a companion in the southwest region of the country.

His companion Francisco had argued with the guerrillas for his release. "He is a very brave man and was given an ultimatum in the end, which was that I stayed and he left."

Sergeant Cowley said he had explained that the British Government did not pay ransoms but his captors had not believed him. "As a consequence, I spent 118 days walking around the central Cordillera in Tolima at altitudes of up to 18,000 ft."

The first glimmer of hope came on Thursday when he was told he was going to receive his liberty the next morning. But after a gruelling eight-hour trek, in which he and his captors descended between 6,000 and 8,000 ft, and being tied to a tree for three hours, he was told that he would be held for at least another 15 days. "Shortly after that grenades went off, bullets started to fly as the Colombian police came to rescue me." As the guerrillas ran off leaving him tied and blindfolded, government troops rushed in under the cover of machinegun fire and rescued him.

TAXI DRIVERS TAKE VOW OF SILENCE

Until then, there's Glenfiddich to enjoy.



*Vouchers cannot be used to purchase foreign currency or travellers cheques. 1% charge applies to all credit/charge card transactions under £20.00.

Police pay £101,000 to jailed innocent

BY STEWART TENDLER

POLICE agreed to pay £101,000 in damages and costs yesterday to a voluntary worker wrongly arrested and jailed for drug offences.

The High Court agreement is the eighth and biggest in a series of cases following allegations of police corruption over drug raids in the Stoke Newington area of northeast London in 1990. Scotland Yard has paid £420,000 over claims of false imprisonment, assault and malicious prosecution, and two cases have yet to be settled.

The court was told yesterday that Rennie Kingsley, 48, now of Hackney, east London, was arrested after officers smashed in his front door. Russell Miller, his solicitor, said Mr Kingsley was a "respected and valued" member of the community because of his work with housing projects. He was knocked down, handcuffed and eventually jailed for four months for possession of drugs. He was cleared when the Crown Prosecution Service did not contest his appeal, on the ground that the evidence of the police officers could not be relied upon.

The officers involved maintained their innocence. Mr Miller said, but the Commissioner did not contest Mr Kingsley's claim.



Lottery controversy: Sir Tim Bell and John Jackson

Lottery 'bribe'

Continued from page 1

he had not raised the issue of the bribe before because he felt it would achieve little and that it might appear like sour grapes. It was only when the *Panorama* team asked him what he knew about Mr Snowden that he decided to reveal the bribe now rather than in the autobiography that he is writing.

Mr Branson's account of the lunch was corroborated by his friend Dr Peter Emerson, the former dean of Westminster Medical School, who said that he had told him about it two days later. Dr Emerson said that Mr Branson had no doubts that Mr Snowden had been trying to bribe him.

At Westminster last night, Mr Davis was questioned by MPs about Mr Branson's allegations, about his flights in America courtesy of GTech and about bribes that GTech were alleged to have paid to a Californian senator. But he insisted: "I had no evidence that GTech have in any sense misbehaved in their dealings in connection with the National Lottery." He refused, however, to give MPs details of his investigations into the company before the franchise was awarded.

Asked about the flights within America, Mr Davis said that he had taken them to look at various lottery operations in October 1994. Camelot had already won the main lottery contract, but the scratchcard decision had not been made.

Questioned by Alan Williams, Labour MP for Swansea West, Mr Davis said he had no regrets about accepting the free trips.

Mr Williams asked him, "Do you think it is wise as regulator to use one of the two private jets of GTech?"

Mr Davis replied: "Absolutely yes. Had I wanted to to visit a number of US lotteries by scheduled airlines it would have taken a great deal longer and cost the taxpayer a great deal more. I took advice and decided it was the right thing to do."

Dublin court orders IRA escapers to be extradited

A DUBLIN court yesterday ordered the extradition to Britain of Nessan Quinlivan and Pearse McAuley, the IRA terrorists who escaped from Brixton Prison in 1991.

Lawyers for Quinlivan, 30, and McAuley, 31, said after the hearing at Dublin District Court that they would appeal against the extradition orders, a process that could take up to 18 months.

Quinlivan and McAuley are wanted in Britain on charges of conspiracy to murder Sir Charles Tidbury, the former chairman of Whitbread plc, conspiracy to cause explosions, escaping from lawful custody and causing malicious wounding in July 1991. They were awaiting trial when they escaped.

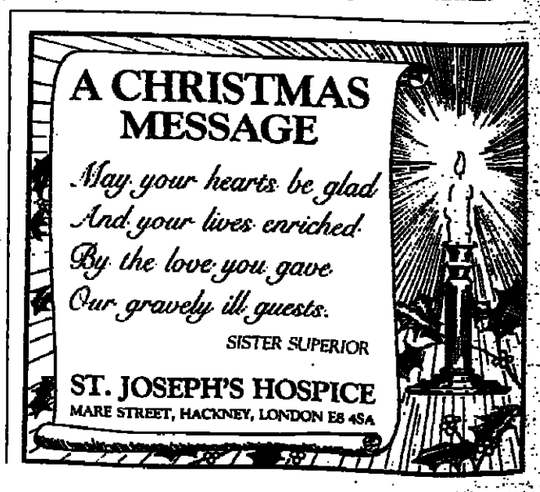
☐ Vincent Wood, 32, an IRA sympathiser who hid a cache of Semtex explosive, some intended for an attack on the Prime Minister's country home, had his 22-year jail sentence reduced to 17 years at the Old Bailey yesterday.

A CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

May your hearts be glad
And your lives enriched
By the love you gave
Our gravely ill guests.

SISTER SUPERIOR

ST. JOSEPH'S HOSPICE
MARE STREET, HACKNEY, LONDON E8 4SA



worsened, if anything. In 1982, pull up stumps and go

هكذا من الأصل

NEWS IN BRIEF

Britain expels Libyan diplomat

Children were forced to kneel by armed and masked man who burst into their lesson

Schoolgirl's killer blames alter ego for knife attack in classroom



RICHARD RAYNER

Nikki Conroy, left, and Stephen Wilkinson. He admits her manslaughter and trying to murder two others, but denies murdering Nikki

By Kate Alderson

A MASKED man burst into a classroom and forced the children to line up on their knees before stabbing a girl to death, a court was told yesterday.

Nikki Conroy, 12, died within minutes in the violent attack. Emma Winter, 12, and Michelle Reeve, 13, were also stabbed at Hall Garth school in Acklam, Middlesbrough, in March 1994.

Stephen James Wilkinson, 30, from Middlesbrough, who was unemployed, blamed an alter ego for the attack. He has denied murdering Nikki but pleaded guilty to manslaughter on the ground of diminished responsibility and to the attempted murders of Emma and Michelle. The prosecution at Leeds Crown Court has refused to accept Wilkinson's manslaughter plea.

David Robson, QC, for the prosecution, told the jury not to let themselves be moved by "dreadful events" over the weekend — an apparent reference to the stabbing of the headmaster Philip Lawrence in London.

He explained that the trial was being held in Leeds rather than Teesside because it concerns "a very emotional event — it is in everybody's interest it is approached in a cool, calm and collected way."

The jury was told that in a holdall Wilkinson took to the school police found a five-page "confession" in which he talked about part of his personality he referred to as Wilson Jinks — an anagram of S.J. Wilkinson — trying to take him over.

Mr Robson said Wilkinson walked into Hall Garth school at about 9.30am and went to a classroom on the second floor where a maths lesson was in progress.



Michelle: killer said he would make her pay

The class of 8MR was studying under the supervision of Graham Nellist, a relief teacher, when Wilkinson burst in. He was carrying a holdall that contained several knives, a small axe and a gun, which later turned out to be a replica.

Wilkinson headed for Southil Malik, 12, who was sitting near the door and held what seemed to be a gun to his head. Wilkinson shouted at Mr Nellist: "Get out, get out." Mr Nellist tried to calm Wilkinson but he continued to shout and swear while still holding the gun, and the teacher was forced to leave the room, Mr Robson said.

Wilkinson then told the pupils: "Get to the back of the class or I will kill you." He ordered the children to kneel, close their eyes and put their hands behind their backs. He told the boys to face the wall and the girls to face him.

Nikki, Emma and Michelle were heard crying as they cowered on the floor, and children heard Wilkinson shout: "You are going to pay for what you did to me."

Mr Robson said: "Then Emma Winter closed her eyes, she heard a scream which she believed came from Nikki Conroy and she felt several blows which she thought were punches to her body. In fact they were stab wounds."

Her written statement to the court read: "I knew he had hurt someone. I felt a bang to the rear of my shoulder. I heard Nikki scream."

Ben Sickling, 12, a pupil in the class, said in a statement read in court: "I was frightened. I thought I was going to die. I thought he was going to shoot us." He described how he heard the school alarm go off as Wilkinson shouted: "We are all dead now." He heard thudding sounds and thought people were being hit.

The court was told that after Mr Nellist left the classroom he raised the alarm by shouting: "There's a nutter upstairs with a gun and he's got the kids." This triggered an evacuation of the school.

Christopher Bielby, the school's deputy head, went up to the second-floor classroom where Wilkinson was and was joined outside by Dave Eland, a maths teacher. The court was told that both teachers could see Wilkinson through the glass door and when he caught sight of them he levelled the gun at them.

Both teachers said they thought it best not to endanger the children's lives by making any rash moves and stood outside the door listening. Mr Bielby told the court: "Then we could see the man stooping down and he appeared to jab one of the children in the back with a knife." Both teachers saw "white shirts covered in blood" and barged into the classroom. Wilkinson then ran to his bag and grabbed what the teachers thought was a gun.

"As he grabbed hold of the gun I got there within an instant," Mr Eland said. "And I grabbed the barrel to keep it pointing away from anybody." As he held the gun Mr Bielby grabbed Wilkinson from behind. They wrestled the attacker to the ground and told the children to leave the classroom. Mr Eland then heard Wilkinson say: "The knife is still there. Give the knife and let me finish it." He told the court this suggested to him that Wilkinson wanted to commit suicide.

As the teachers held Wilkinson down they noticed a child was still in the classroom, lying in a pool of blood. Mr Bielby, choking back tears, told the court how he tried to revive Nikki but she was "beyond help".

Mr Robson said Wilkinson claimed "the person that was actually doing it was not S.J. Wilkinson but the dark side of his own nature, who he has always described as Wilson Jinks." Mr Robson said Wilkinson told police he could recollect nothing about the attack. But he later had flashbacks to the day and told psychiatrists he had been "watching himself doing it".

Nikki's parents, Peter and Diane, from Middlesbrough, who were sitting in the public gallery, were clearly distressed during the evidence of their daughter's death. Mrs Conroy wept as the jury was told details of the pathologist's evidence. Nikki had three stab wounds to her chest which pierced her heart, lung and liver. She suffered other wounds while trying to defend herself and James Sohil, the Home Office pathologist, described the attack in his post-mortem report as a "savage ferocity". He said that Nikki died from her wounds within a few minutes.

The jury was told that Wilkinson's five-page confession, entitled *Thoughts/Confession*, began: "This is my confession for the nafarious [sic] entity which has been parasitising me these last ten years."

The trial continues tomorrow.

'I shall steal the lives of society's weakest members'

A VIVID insight into Stephen Wilkinson's mind in the months before the attack came from a six-page document found in his holdall. In his "Thoughts/Confessions" dated January 1994, two months before he stormed into the classroom, he referred to the effect his alter-ego was having on him.

He wrote "Wilson Jinks wants to destroy me. If I let him gain ascendance he will also slaughter the lambs." He also wrote: "This confession may read like that of a lunatic but I can assure you that I am quite sane. In truth I wish only to convey to the world my absolute hatred of it. In doing so I shall steal the lives of society's weakest members; those most vulnerable and those most treasured."

Towards the end of his statement Wilkinson says: "If I am a borderline psychotic, then translating my fantasy into objective reality (is there such a thing?) will surely push me over the edge. That is why I must die. *Mens rea?* Perhaps. These are not the words of a lunatic.

"I appreciate the illegality of the prime objective, but I am powerless to resist. I know that if I enter that building I will have crossed the Rubicon and it frightens me. I cannot stop myself. It will be done."

He speaks of writing being a catharsis and he lists books he claims to have written, including *The Story of Wilson Jinks*. He concludes: "It would have been better had I never existed. Life really has been a massive disappointment. I cannot justify living any longer. This confession is the last thing I shall ever write. Read it, study it and understand, for it contains a thousand truths: the whos, whats, whens and whys of all that shall follow."

He finished with poetry:

And what of this artist?
He lies in black incubation, surrounded by the walls of his coffin
Sleeping in concrete wombs, buried in amniotic tombs. Waiting
One day he will awaken from this most noble sleep
And the world will shake.

He said: "This potential to destroy others horrifies me. If I indulge it, if I allow myself to lose control, then it will have won: it will destroy me as surely as it will my victims. And yet I see no alternative."

Until the age of 16 Wilkinson was a pupil at Boynton School, which merged with another to form Hall Garth. The jury was told that a wide range of books on death and other macabre subjects were found in his bedroom. The collection included books on psychology, the occult, after-death experiences, serial killers, sex killers and horror in general.



Band with an open secret: Brian Phillips is top left and Pollyanna Peate is fourth from right on the front row

Fatal last date of blacksmith and his married Pollyanna

By Emma Wilkins

A LOVE affair in a village band ended in the death of the trombonist, just when he had decided to end his relationship with the euphonium player almost half his age, a court was told yesterday.

A jury must now decide whether Brian Phillips, 62, a blacksmith, simply collapsed and died after a final love-making session with Pollyanna Peate, 34, or whether she caused his death with four angry punches after he told her that their affair was over.

The lovers, both married, were members of the Frodsham Silver Band in Cheshire. Their last meeting took place after an evening rehearsal. Mr Phillips's body was found on the back seat of his car at marshes near the Mersey estuary.

Mrs Peate, a mother of two from Runcorn, Cheshire, denies manslaughter and allegedly told detectives that she had followed instructions previously given by Mr Phillips — who had a heart condition — on what to do if he ever collapsed, in order to save embarrassment to his wife, Sybil.

Despite her claims that she simply dressed him and went home, Mrs Peate was charged with manslaughter after marks were allegedly discovered on his body. Merfyn Hughes, for the prosecution at Chester Crown Court, said that Mr Phillips had suffered head injuries consistent with being hit with moderate force by a fist.

The couple's ten-year affair was said to be an open secret. Mr Hughes said: "Members of the band were well aware, it seems, that despite a difference of something like 30 years in their ages, Mr Phillips and Mrs Peate were conducting an affair together. They both successfully concealed the fact from their respective partners."

There was evidence that Mr Phillips had been thinking of ending their relationship and, during interviews with detectives, Mrs Peate said he told her they were having sex for the last time.

"It looks very much as if he had chosen this fateful night to tell her that their relationship was over," Mr Hughes said. "That night they had got in the back of the car together. She said that during the act of sexual intercourse, he had simply collapsed and died.

"She had tried to revive him but, having failed to do so, she dressed him and walked the mile or so back to Frodsham where she caught a taxi home."

Mr Hughes said Mrs Peate originally gave a detailed account of their movements,



Peate: she changed her story, the court was told

making no secret of the affair, but claiming their relationship had been platonic for the last five years. She said they had sat for an hour talking and Mr Phillips had then driven her home.

After she was arrested on suspicion of manslaughter, she began to change her story, eventually admitting that they regularly had sex near the spot where the car was found.

In a statement read to the court, Mr Phillips's wife said she had no idea of her husband's affair. The couple had been married for 39 years. Mrs Phillips had met Mrs Peate at band functions and found her friendly.

"She always made an effort to come across and say hello to myself and my children and grandchildren. I was totally unaware that Pollyanna Peate and my husband were having an affair and this had been going on for about ten years. I didn't suspect Brian was seeing anyone else and it came as a great shock to me."

Mr Phillips, a blacksmith at Vauxhall's Ellesmere Port car plant, had suffered a serious heart attack in 1972 and in recent months had been complaining of breathlessness, the court was told.

Mr Hughes said: "The injuries would not normally cause a person's death, but he died not of those injuries but because of the stress and excitement of the violence which put an unbearable strain on what was already a weak heart. It is not the prosecution case that she intended to kill him or even to cause him a really serious injury."

In law, he said, if you assault and injure someone particularly susceptible to serious injury because of an unusual condition or disease, you cannot escape responsibility for the offence of manslaughter because you did not intend your victim to die.

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هكذا من الأصل

'This is not just a school problem – kids in their mid-teens are running the streets around here'

Two Triad-style teenage gangs are blamed for head's death

By Michael Horsnell, Joanna Bale and Stewart Tendler

TWO teenage gangs who modelled themselves on the Chinese Triads were responsible for the death of the headmaster Philip Lawrence, it was claimed last night.

Children on the streets around St George's Catholic School in Maida Vale, north-west London, said Mr Lawrence had intervened in a revenge attack against a 13-year-old pupil by members of the Wo Sing Wo (WSW) and 14K groups.

Detectives were at the school yesterday when it reopened after the death of Mr Lawrence, a father of four, on Friday. More than 200 statements have been taken. One senior police source said: "I am confident whoever did it will be caught very quickly."

The teenage gangs, who recruit members as young as 13, model themselves on the traditional Chinese organisations based in London's Chinatown. Membership is not restricted to the Chinese and the boys involved in the St George's attack were said to be multiracial, though Chinese-led. The 14K gang is based in the Latimer Road area of North Kensington, and the WSW in Angel, Islington.

The pupil whom Mr Lawrence, 48, had tried to defend was being interviewed by detectives yesterday. He was said to be "no angel" in an area where teenage boys had "taken over the streets".

A 15-year-old Asian boy, who described himself as a Triad member, said: "The 14K and the WSW came looking for him after a Chinese boy complained about harassment. They just meant to teach him a lesson. They wouldn't have been planning to kill him or the headmaster."

Junior Morris, 18, of Maida Vale, told how he was approached by 14K at an amusement arcade in Piccadilly. "They asked me and friends if we wanted to join. They said their leader was called Dragon, and we would be protected if anyone tried to attack us. I said I wasn't interested."

The WSW and 14K wear bandannas, baggy trousers and loose shirts, said to accommodate knives and other weapons. Senior members in their late teens favour designer labels. One youth, wearing an Yves Saint Laurent shirt, described the progression from "jackings" — street robbery — to extortion. Many junior members collected protection money from restaurants and shops, he said.

Father Frank Ryan, director of the Marian Community Centre on the South Kilburn estate, said: "Kids in their mid-teens are running the streets around here. Any number of people have been mugged and some talk about it happening two or three times to them. This is not just a school problem, it is a community-wide problem.

"It is hard to do anything constructive for them, but we do our best. The trouble is that staff can be put in danger and so, to a certain extent, we have given up on the kids."

New barbarism, page 1
Libby Purves, page 18
Leading article, page 19



Pupils at St George's, which reopened yesterday with a special Mass

ANDRE CAMARA


Cardinal Basil Hume yesterday with Joanne Scott, vice-chairwoman of governors

Cardinal Hume urges killer to give himself up to police

By Dominic Kennedy

CARDINAL Basil Hume celebrated Mass yesterday at the school where Philip Lawrence was murdered and prayed with children and staff for both the headmaster and his killer.

The Archbishop of Westminster gave a ten-minute homily inspired by John 15:13: "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends."

Later, outside St George's school, the cardinal called on the killer to give himself up. He said Christians must forgive, but attacked the values of a society that had lost respect for life.

Cardinal Hume, a former Abbot of Ampleforth, told the pupils and teachers, gathered in the dining hall for the service, that they should be inspired by the example of Mr Lawrence, who was stabbed after trying to save a pupil from being attacked.

"When Philip Lawrence appears before God, God will say to him, 'Well done, you are a good man, you did a good job. You died laying down your life for another person and that's a noble thing to do.' Some time or other we will appear before God. We want him to say well done to us and that means being the kind of person Philip Lawrence was. That means being hard-working, disciplined and very generous and respectful towards each other."

The cardinal spoke from an altar covered with a simple white cloth. There were floral tributes propped against it and a candle flickered on top. He was surrounded by a semi-circle of the school's 440 pupils and staff. Many children had arrived with flowers to join a steadily growing pile. There were both children and adults overcome by tears.

"The headmaster was a friend of the pupils, they were his friends," Cardinal Hume said. "It is right that we should cry. We have to mourn, we have to grieve, it's part of human living. I believe every teacher in this school would have done what Philip Lawrence did." The cardinal and another priest then gave Holy Communion to almost the entire school.

Afterwards Cardinal Hume urged the killer to contact the police and accepted that forgiving him would be difficult. "The young man who did this terrible crime has to acknowledge it, he has to be punished for it, he has to pay his debt. We have to try hard in our hearts to forgive. It comes slowly but it is part of our Christian thing to forgive."

He added: "We have to look at our society and at the kind of things that allow this to happen. Who are these gangs roaming the streets of this city? That's unacceptable. Why are they carrying weapons? That's unacceptable. All sorts of factors — it can be absence of family life, broken homes, absence of a job, unemployment, bad housing, young people with no hope — we have allowed life to become cheap. Life is sacred — all human life is sacred. We need to let that become part of our civilisation."

Ken Livingstone, MP, whose constituents have been increasingly keen to send their children to St George's since Mr Lawrence's appointment, said he had visited the school a couple of months earlier. "You could see the kids realised they had a headmaster who loved them and cared for them. He went to his death to help a child. That says all you need to know about this man."


Lawrence: he was seen by his pupils as a friend

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MERCURY COMMUNICATIONS

Consumers' Association protests

Solicitors' curb on cheap conveyancing 'will double costs'

BY FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

A CURB on conveyancing by cut-price solicitors could double the legal fees charged to housebuyers, the Consumers' Association said yesterday. Law Society officers are proposing that a new level of charge is necessary to maintain standards of quality.

Low-cost solicitors are accused of cutting legal corners, increasing the likelihood of negligence claims. Under the proposals, any solicitor who charges rates below an official guideline would not be covered by the profession's indemnity insurance.

Scores of solicitors are expected to descend on the Law Society on Thursday for what is expected to be one of the most heated debates in the profession's history. A society spokesman said: "The debate on Thursday is not about price-fixing, but about the principle that the majority profession should not have to carry the cost of cheap conveyancing and provide insurance cover for it."

The proposed guideline fee is £250 plus 0.5 per cent of the house price. A Consumers' Association spokesman said: "We estimated this would take a conveyancing fee to £625 for a £75,000 house." That figure was double the average price charged by solicitors now. The Law Society's own research has found that three quarters of conveyances are charged at less than £300.

The Consumers' Association was in the forefront of the move to end the solicitors' conveyancing monopoly ten years ago. Its spokesman added: "This is seeking to re-introduce the monopoly by the backdoor.

"What the Law Society has got to do is to ensure that all conveyancing solicitors provide a quality service and those who provide a poor service — rather than a cheap service, which is not the same thing — should be penalised."

About 11,000 solicitors have publicly declared support for a campaign led by a Bournemouth solicitor, John Edge, to force action over low conveyancing fees, some of which are as little as £150. The argument over charges concides with a continued slump in the market: total conveyances between January and August were down 9 per cent on the same period last year. Many small firms are being squeezed out of business.

The proposals to stop the price war have been drawn up by a working party chaired by Martin Mears, the society president, and including Robert Sayer, the vice-president. Their report said that conveyancing fees were at "all-time low", and many believed this was strongly linked to a fall in conveyancing standards.

In a simple case, conveyancing can take five hours, but more complex cases can take up to 12-15 hours. Low-cost solicitors must be skimping on their work or delegating to unqualified staff, the report said.

Under the proposals, solicitors who fail to follow the proposed guideline would be refused indemnity insurance cover and instead would have to obtain cover on the open insurance market.

The new guideline fees would have to be approved by the Master of the Rolls. They would not be compulsory. Fixed scales of fees, enforceable by law, were abolished by the Government in 1972.

Law, pages 39, 41

TIM OCKENDEN



The Princess of Wales setting off for New York, where Americans paid £850 to join her for dinner

New York honours charity Princess

FROM QUENTIN LETTS IN NEW YORK

THE Princess of Wales swept in to New York yesterday to accept a prize for charity work, talk to General Colin Powell, and pick up a few career tips from Henry Kissinger.

The Princess, who has lobbied for a future in diplomacy, accepted her award at a black-tie dinner from Dr Kissinger, the former US Secretary of State. General Powell, said to be a distant relative of the Princess, was also given a prize by the United Cerebral Palsy Foundation.

The New York Hilton dinner was the only official engagement on an "in-and-out", 24-hour royal visit. Tickets for the dinner sold out early, benefactors considering £850 a bargain for a night out with a royal. Plutocrat guests included Walter Annenberg, the philanthropist, John Kluge, Randolph Hearst, the British ambassador Sir John Kerr, and Donald and Marla Trump.

The Princess's recent *Panorama* interview has been keenly discussed by Manhattan's moneyed Upper Eastsiders. Opinion is evenly divided. Some sympathise, but most Americans have little time for self-pity.

One New York newspaper greeted the royal arrival by printing a list of eligible bachelors ranging from John Kennedy Jnr to Dr Christopher Calapi, a Park Avenue nutritionist with a gift for small talk.

The royal party arrived on Concorde and checked in, via the back door, to the £670-a-night Carlyle Hotel, an Art Deco landmark noted for its elegance and good views of the Manhattan skyline.

The Carlyle is in an area prone to jewellery thefts. In recent months a smooth-talking burglar has made a series of strikes, escaping with an estimated £160,000 in valuables. Given the Duchess of York's sorry experience in New York last week, police were on full alert yesterday. One officer said: "If Diana is sensible she'll have packed her imitation jewels."

Jail for jealous secretary and her hitman

BY A STAFF REPORTER

A LAUGHING hitman and the secretary who hired him to kill an imagined romantic rival were each jailed for seven years yesterday.

Terese Dorne was subjected to a "nightmare" of violence after an innocent drink with a businessman friend, Snaresbrook Crown Court was told.

First CS gas was sprayed into her face. As she screamed in pain, Raymond Johnson or his unknown accomplice slashed her across her forehead and then twice across her throat. They ran off laughing in what the prosecution described as a "display of true callousness".

In hospital Mrs Dorne, a mother of two, received more than 60 external stitches during a series of operations and will be scarred for the rest of her life.

Johnson, 25, of Walworth, southeast London, was convicted by a jury last month of conspiring to commit grievous bodily harm with intent. The woman who hired him, Diana Lewis, 24, of Leyton, east London, admitted the conspiracy charge before his trial began.

Passing sentence, Judge Pitman told Lewis that her jealousy had been as much obsessive as it was unfounded. "You decided that you would have her face mutilated to stop it," he said.

She was the "evil instigator" and the manipulator. "You formed a calculated plan over a period of weeks and got your way with terrible results."

Since then Lewis had not shown a flicker of remorse for the injuries she had caused.

The judge described Johnson as an immature man who had fallen under the influence of a "formidable and tantalising" woman.

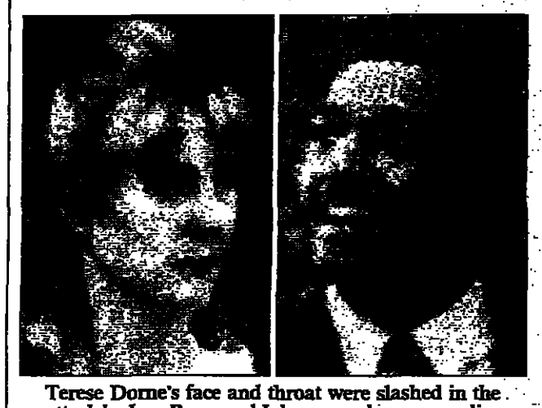
The court was told that Lewis had worked for an accountant in Highgate Hill, north London, and had been having an affair with a businessman who worked in the same building.

She became consumed with jealousy and presumed the worst after seeing Mrs Dorne, 36, who had recently joined the company, having a pre-Christmas drink with the man.

Relations between the two women deteriorated and Mrs Dorne began receiving anonymous phone calls at her home from Lewis. By the time she returned to work in the new year, "the stage had been set for an act of extreme violence", Andrew Lloyd-Eley, for the prosecution, said.

On January 9 Mrs Dorne left work at 4.30pm and went to her car. As she got in, one of two men who had smiled at her only seconds before leaned against the car door and sprayed CS gas into her face.

Completely helpless, she then felt her face being "pulled". The court was told that as well as a huge gash in her forehead, her throat was cut twice. One wound ran from her Adam's apple round her neck, just missing the jugular vein.



Terese Dorne's face and throat were slashed in the attack by Ivor Raymond Johnson and an accomplice

More graduates find jobs but employers still seek high-flyers

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

JOB prospects for graduates are continuing to improve, despite stiffer competition in the employment market.

Employment rates for the class of 1994 improved for the second year running, according to the annual survey by the Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services. Touche Ross, the accountants that sponsored the report, said the survey showed an upturn in long-term job opportunities.

An additional 22,000 students graduated last year, the majority looking for immediate employment. The association's report, *What do graduates do?*, said the larger pool allowed employers to select the best candidates. But some employers were still complaining that they could not find the high-flyers they sought.

Nigel Llewellyn, the national recruitment manager for Touche Ross, said: "There is fierce competition between employers for that one-star candidate. The employer market is becoming much more choosy and aware of the long-term value of real talent."

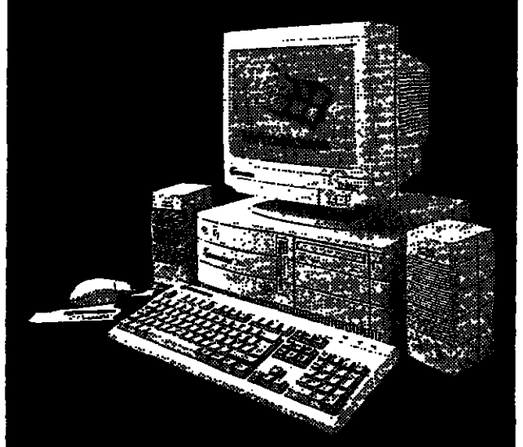
The proportion in work six months after graduation rose by more than 3 per cent to 47.1 per cent. More of those finding jobs were in permanent employment, rather than the short-term jobs that have become increasingly common in the graduate market. Fewer than 10 per cent were out of work at the turn of the year.

The strongest demand was for graduates in computing and information technology, where 60 per cent of those leaving universities and colleges found immediate employment. There were also sharp improvements in mechanical and civil engineering.

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Chance brings abuser to justice

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH

A CHANCE meeting of two women in a café led to their former PE teacher being sentenced to three years' probation for sexual abuse yesterday, nearly 20 years after the offences took place.

George Brough, 52, a former coach with the Scottish basketball team and a father of eight, pleaded guilty to abusing two female pupils at Holy Rood Roman Catholic High School, Edinburgh, when they were 15. As he was sentenced by Lord Johnston in the High Court in Edinburgh yesterday, one victim shouted: "What about our 19 years of hell, you pillar of the church?"

The women, now both 34, met by chance in a café in 1993. One confessed that she had been sexually abused by Brough. The other said the same thing had happened to her and they went to the police.

Craig Scott, for the prosecution, said both girls had problems at home and had confided in Brough, who took advantage of their vulnerability. His affair with one girl began after she went to his home to babysit. Mr Scott said: "He indicated to the girls that if they told anyone he would lose his job and perhaps his family and home."

Brough, who is now a taxi driver, left court with a priest. He was said to have undergone a "spiritual change" since the offences and was now a devout Roman Catholic.

Lord Johnston told Brough that it would not be in the public interest to jail him because of the length of time since the offences and because there was no suggestion that he might reoffend. He also ordered him to carry out 100 hours of community service.

After the case, one victim said: "He affected us so badly that one of us tried to commit suicide. I don't believe he has changed. He has shown no remorse and has hoodwinked church leaders."

Former teacher sparked international condemnation of electric lance



MARK VOTIER

An injured whale being dragged to the side of a Japanese catcher ship. The electrocutions took eight minutes on average, but one took 23 minutes

Japan sues Briton over whale exposé

BY NICK NUTTALL, ENVIRONMENT CORRESPONDENT

A BRITON who exposed the use of electric lances by Japanese whalers is to be sued in a court in Tokyo today.

Mark Votier is expected to be fined about £60,000, with costs of more than £200,000, for breach of contract. It is alleged that he gave film footage of whales being electrocuted to television companies, despite signing an agreement not to.

The legal action, by the Institute of Cetacean Research, which is part-funded by the Japanese Government, is a result of Mr Votier's five months on board the whaling ships *Nisshin Maru* and *Toshi* in 1992-93.

During the voyage he witnessed minke whales, allegedly caught as part of Japan's scientific whaling programme, being killed by lances discharging 220 volts. In May 1993 he released the video footage to television stations worldwide, including British broadcasters, prompting international condemnation. He said: "If I had not released the pictures I could not have lived with the decision. Altogether I watched 30 harpoonings. In about 50 per cent of cases the whales were immobilised instantly, and shackled to the side of the catcher ship for transport to the waiting factory ship.

"But in the other 50 per cent the whales were only wounded. To immobilise them, they were dragged to the bows of the catcher ship and speared with a lance containing a detachable electrode. The gunner then discharged 220 volts of electricity into the animal's body, in most cases causing it to react violently.

"The average immobilisation time, on a conservative estimate, is eight minutes. However, I did witness one particularly botched electrocution which took 23 minutes."

Mr Votier, 38, a former teacher, lived in Japan for seven years and became environmentally active there. He helped to make a film with Granada Television on Japanese loggers in Borneo.





Mark Votier spent five months on board Japanese whaling ships. Electric lances are used on whales not immobilised by the explosive charges in harpoons

He now lives in London, and said Japan would not seek his extradition because it was a civil case. He fears, however, that it may seek to enforce any fines through the High Court.

Vassili Papastavrou, a marine biologist with the International Fund for Animal Welfare, which is backing Mr Votier, said yesterday: "The institute is trying to stifle a basic human right — free speech. It should be condemned internationally by other governments for this court action. It is another attempt by the Japanese to hide the barbarity of their whaling and particularly their cruel electrocution method."

There is a moratorium on commercial whaling, but the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling allows members to grant themselves permits for whales to be captured for scientific purposes. Japan plans to catch 440 minke whales this year, an increase of 110 on previous years. It says it wants to study their health and age, and uses the lance instead of a humane-killing gun to preserve the whales for analysis. Critics fear the claim is simply a cover for supplying the whale-meat markets in Tokyo.

At the annual meeting of the International Whaling Commission in June, the British delegation called for a ban on the electric lance. It described the weapon as "extremely ineffective and cruel".

Scientists from New Zealand, whose paper was based partly on evidence gathered by Mr Votier, indicated that the lances were restricted to only 220 volts to protect whaling crews. This meant, however, that the whales were slowly fried rather than being killed quickly.

Delegates at the meeting voted 20 to four to suspend use of the lance, but the vote was not binding. An attempt to introduce a formal ban will be made next year.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Tory MP denies driving charges

Sir Nicholas Scott, the former Tory minister, denied a drink-driving charge yesterday, relating to an incident in which a three-year-old child needed treatment for shock.

The MP for Chelsea pleaded not guilty in his absence to driving with excess alcohol, failing to stop after an accident and driving without due care. Magistrates at Horseferry Road in London adjourned the case for trial on January 26.

Sir Nicholas, former Minister for the Disabled, was charged after his car allegedly shunted a parked vehicle into the boy's pushchair.

Soldier released

Private Stephen Jordon, 23, a guardsman held under close arrest for eight months pending a court martial on theft charges, was freed into open arrest after the Army bowed to pressure from two High Court judges. His lawyers withdrew their application for a writ of habeas corpus.

Screen debut

Unison, the health service union, is to become the first trade union to advertise on television. A £1.2 million recruitment campaign starts on Friday. The 50-second advertisement on Channel 4 features the voice of the actor James Bolam. A cinema campaign may run later.

Post stabbing

A postal worker was seriously ill after being stabbed at a sorting office in Paddington, west London. Kenneth Shaw, 48, was attacked after finding an intruder in the building. A colleague was treated for minor stab wounds. Police are questioning a 60-year-old man.

Shared asset

A four-seater lavatory in the grounds of Cannon Hall, near Barnsley, South Yorkshire, has been restored for £13,000 as a tourist attraction. The 200-year-old earth midden is thought to have been used by the Spencer-Stanhope family. The house now belongs to the council.



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MERCURY COMMUNICATIONS

Improperly sterilised cattle feed from rendering plants is blamed for outbreak of 'mad cow' disease

Energy-saving moves may have helped BSE to spread

BY MICHAEL HORNSBY
AGRICULTURE CORRESPONDENT

A hospital patient has died of the human version of "mad cow" disease. Gloucestershire Royal Hospital confirmed yesterday that a patient had been a victim of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease, but would not release further details at the request of relatives. The body has been taken to Frenchay Hospital, Bristol, for a post-mortem examination by a specialist pathology team.

UNSTERILISED cattle feed is likely to have been the main reason for the outbreak of "mad cow" disease that has killed more than 155,000 animals and cast a blight over British beef, scientists say.

Changes in the way cattle feed was processed in the late 1970s and early 1980s, partly to save energy, allowed the organism that causes bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE) to remain infectious. No one realised the dangers at the time.

Although rendering plants where feed is made have changed their methods, scientists say they cannot be certain that all the processes used now destroy the BSE agent completely.

Researchers found that four of the 15 processes now commonly used to render down livestock waste in the European Union produced meat and bone-meal with "detectable BSE infectivity". This was tested by injecting the material into the brains of laboratory mice which subsequently showed signs of the disease.

Chris Bostock, head of the molecular biology division at the Institute for Animal Health, in Compton, Berkshire, said: "Because of the post-1973 oil crisis there was pressure to adopt less energy-intensive methods and this led to lower temperatures in the rendering process."

Another important factor, the scientists say, was a sharp decline in the use of a chemical solvent to extract fats from livestock waste such as bone and offal. The steam treatment used to remove the solvent at the end of the process also helped to inactivate the BSE agent. The chemical was phased out because it was thought to be hazardous to rendering-plant workers.

The findings, reported in *The Veterinary Record*, say: "It appears that the effective exposure of cattle to sufficient [BSE agent] to cause the disease could have been the result of a two-stage process involving the cumulative effect of the two major changes in rendering practices."

The practice of feeding cattle on high-protein meat and bone-meal, produced from the rendered-down bones, offal and other unwanted bits of livestock carcasses, increased hugely after the Second World War. It was found to boost growth and milk yield and seemed a sensible way of recycling waste material. There are about 25 plants in Britain handling some 1.3 million tonnes of carcass remains.

BSE can survive superheated steam treatment at 135C. Some of the methods examined achieved only about 120C and not for long enough.

Regulations introduced throughout the European Union at the start of this year require rendering plants to observe minimum temperature levels. The inclusion of cattle and sheep remains in cattle feed has also been banned since July 1988.

As the controversy continued over the safety of beef, deer farmers and butchers yesterday reported "phenomenal" sales of venison. Nichola Fletcher, a deer farmer from Auchtermuchty, Fife, said sales had increased by 45 per cent last month. "We are working round the clock to meet orders." Beef suppliers have predicted a further drop in beef prices this week.

NEIL MUNNS



Workmen easing a model calf into position yesterday on a three-dimensional poster for the RSPCA highlighting the small size of veal crates used to transport calves on the Continent. The poster at Vauxhall, south London, on a site donated by Mills and Allen poster contractors, is campaigning against a crate system banned in Britain since 1990

America's king of the Santas gives lessons in jollity

BY ROBIN YOUNG

GRUMPY British Father Christmases are going on an American charm offensive under instruction from a consultant Santa Claus flown in from the United States.

Tom Valent, from Michigan, who has a master's degree in Santa Clausery and was official Santa of the Year last year, has been brought in by Index, the 130-store catalogue shop chain, to teach its Santas to be more convincingly jolly. Mr Valent, who runs a school for Santas in his home state, is to induct some 30 British redcoats into the subtle arts of festive jollity tomorrow at the Tower Thistle Hotel in London.

A spokesman for Index, part of the Littlewood's group, said the company had been concerned that British Santas might be too dull, and even deficient in knowing the names of their reindeer.

"Tom Valent is the world's number one Santa specialist and trains all the Father Christmases for the official Santa Claus Foundation in Greenland," the spokesman said. "British children are often left cold by characters who look more like Santa Flaws than Santa Claus. Tom Valent will run a one-day school for our applicants, teaching them how to get the laugh right and the other do's and don'ts of the job."

Mr Valent's school for Santas is the oldest in the world, founded in 1937, and he has 20 years' experience in the role. Index employs Santas on a regional basis to make flying visits to up to ten stores in each area. "It is important to get the right Santas for this job so we wanted the best Father Christmas in the world to help us do it properly," the company's spokesman said.

Mr Valent is accompanied by his wife Holly, who helps to run his school in the persona of Mrs Christmas, an unfamiliar figure in cheerless British grottoes.

Selfridge's, the Oxford Street store, said: "The real Santa has been coming to our store every year since 1909. There is no charge to meet him and everyone is highly delighted to see him. We do not want any lessons from so-called Santa schools."

Harrods, whose Santa dispenses free books and badges, said: "There is only one Santa, and of course he is at Harrods. He is a very jolly character and we have had absolutely no complaints."

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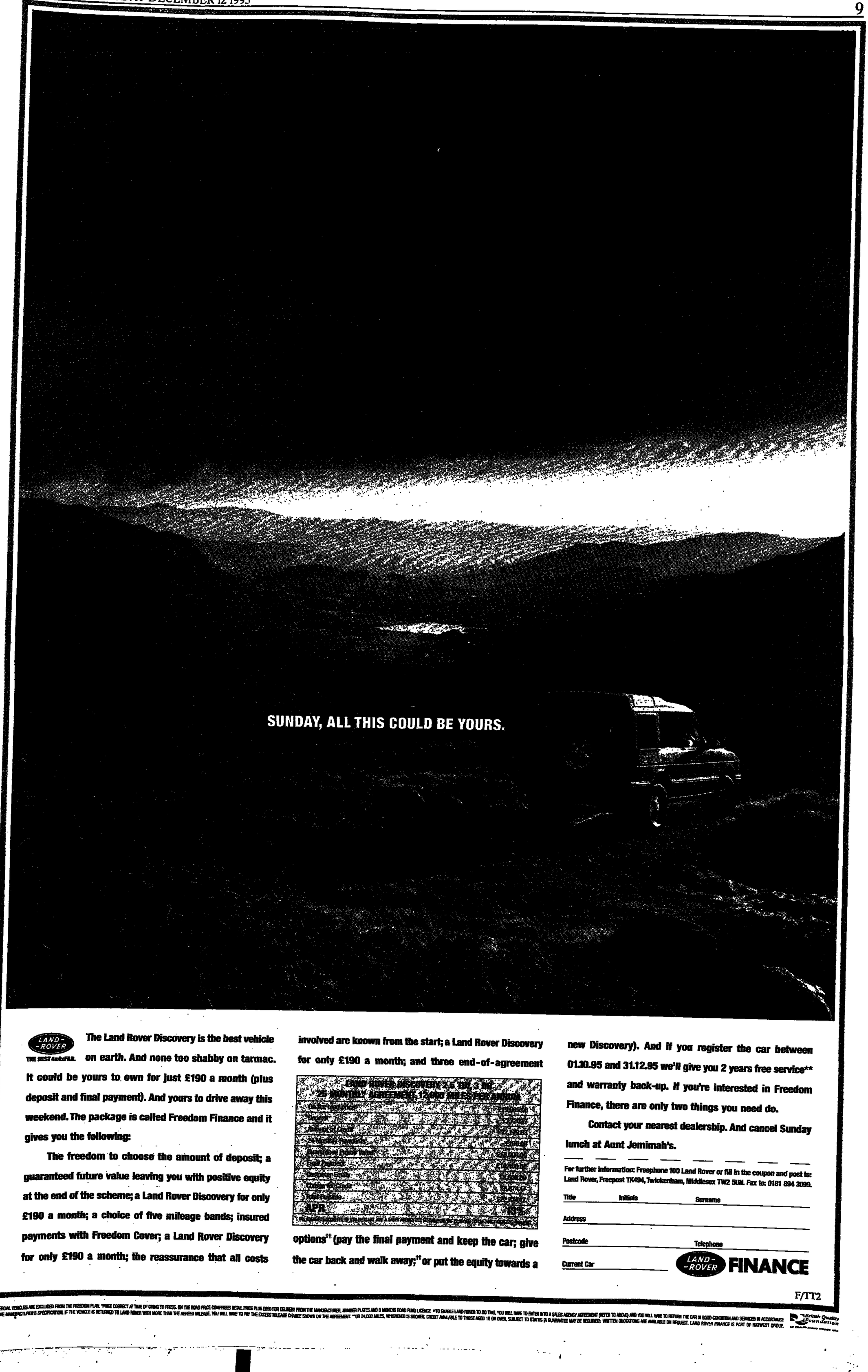
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Howell's criticism puts Major under renewed pressure

BY NICHOLAS WOOD, CHIEF POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

JOHN MAJOR was facing renewed turmoil over Europe last night after David Howell, a former Cabinet minister, indicated that he was standing down at the next election partly because foreign policy "was coming off the rails".

Mr Howell, chairman of the all-party foreign affairs committee, accused the Government of becoming obsessed with Europe at the expense of British interests in the rest of the world. The Guildford MP's intervention came as John Redwood prepared to reignite the internal Tory feud over a European currency.

Today, Mr Redwood, the former Cabinet minister who challenged Mr Major for the Conservative leadership in the summer, will renew his call for him to rule out a single currency in the five-year lifetime of the next Parliament or, at the least, promise a referendum on the issue.

In an article in *The Times* today, Mr Redwood also criticises France for taking orders from Germany over a single currency.

With European Union leaders due to meet this weekend in Madrid to decide the name of the new currency and to debate Franco-German proposals for deeper integration, the pressure is building on the Prime Minister to stiffen his resistance to closer ties.

At a press conference today, Mr Redwood will launch a crusade to swing business opinion against a single currency as part of his moves to secure a manifesto pledge ruling it out. He will publish a 60-page booklet, which warns firms that economic and monetary union (EMU) would damage the British economy and impose higher costs on the 80 per cent of companies that do not trade abroad and will see no savings from lower currency transaction costs.

Mr Redwood, who plans a nationwide tour to put his case across, will urge companies to learn from their painful experience of the attempt to impose currency stability through the exchange-rate mechanism. The price would again be "unstable interest rates and output".

In his article, Mr Redwood points to the strikes and civil unrest in France as evidence of the folly of hastening to meet the Maastricht conditions for a single currency by the treaty deadline of 1999. He also accuses President Chirac of showing scant gratitude for Mr Major's support for his nuclear testing programme. "He deserved more thanks than a hectoring joint letter from Germany and France saying they will press on with monetary union. It contained a sideswipe at British pragmatism for daring to question the policy. There is no point in supporting France if they take their inspiration or even their instructions from Berlin."



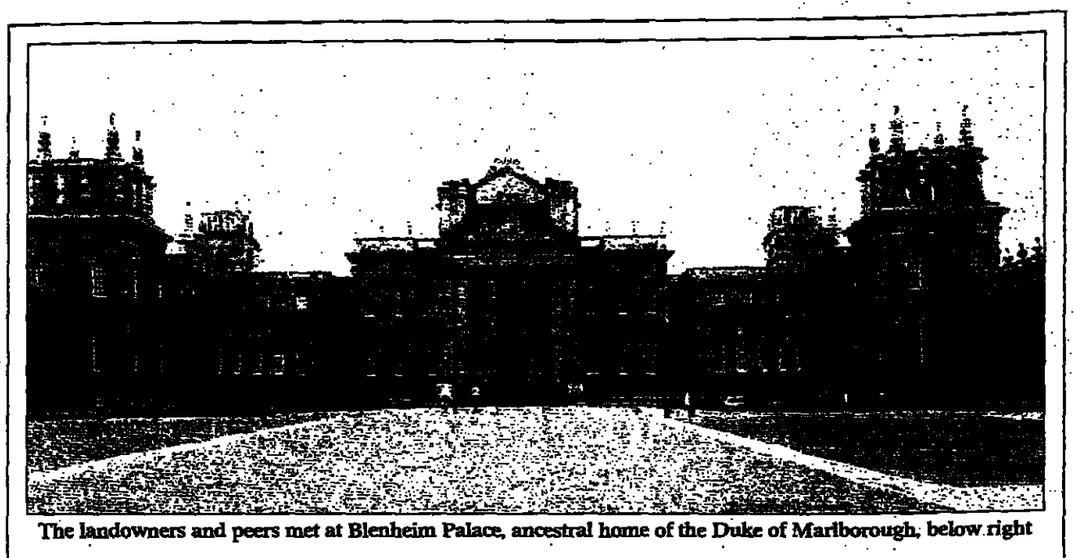
Howell: Britain ignoring the rest of world

On BBC radio, Mr Howell indicated that his disenchantment with the Government's European policy lay behind his decision not to contest Guildford again. He said: "I have felt in recent years that foreign policy was coming a bit off the rails and we seem to have lost confidence, or an ability, to count our own enormous strengths and deploy them."

Mr Howell said later that after 30 years in the Commons it was time to move on. But at the same time, his disagreements with policy towards Europe and Bosnia had played a part in his decision. "I plough my own furrow on foreign policy and I am not too thrilled with the ethos of recent years."

He suggested that ministers were overlooking the fact that four fifths of Britain's commercial and financial interests lay outside Western Europe. "We are huge investors around the world," he said. "Vast income comes in from our overseas assets, from the Commonwealth, for instance, and South-East Asia. These are the areas where we have not pursued our interests enough."

John Redwood, page 18



The landowners and peers met at Blenheim Palace, ancestral home of the Duke of Marlborough, below right

Worried aristocrats plan for a Blairite Britain

BY ALICE THOMSON, POLITICAL REPORTER



THE British aristocracy is so worried about Labour's tax policies that a group of landowners and peers met last week to make contingency plans for a Blair victory at the next election.

Emigration was even discussed as an alternative to struggling on in "genteel poverty" under their vision of a future Labour government.

Almost a hundred members of the aristocracy went to Blenheim Palace, Oxfordshire, for a "Managing Change" conference, at which they debated what to do if a Labour government began raising taxes and closing loopholes in the system. The group, led by the Duke of Marlborough, discussed whether new Labour could be trusted to live up to its promises not to return to the days of unearned income being taxed at 98 per cent for the richest few. Many of them have expensive ancestral homes to run and are keen to preserve the family Gainsboroughs for future generations.

The duke said: "With a change of Government possible in under two years we need to consider what impact Labour might have on estates such as our own."

Another peer said: "We don't want to be caught with our pants down after the next general election. Many of us are struggling to keep up estates and if Labour decide to be just slightly tougher on us, they could force us to sell up or risk genteel poverty.

"However well-disposed Tony Blair is towards the middle classes, I can't seem him inviting landowners along to No. 10 to hear our problems over beer and sandwiches."

Most were urged to realise capital gains early and to use up all their tax quotas. They discussed ways of passing on their inheritance and were told to think about the possibility of emigrating. They were also advised to accelerate the realisation of income from bonuses, directors' remuneration and dividends.

They were briefed by three of the best-known advisers to the Establishment: the accountancy firm Coopers & Lybrand, the land agents Smiths Gore, and the law firm Whithers. The advisers told them what to expect from Labour and its tax, inheritance and rural policies. They also briefed them on the Budget and how to get the most out of it.

Coopers & Lybrand predicted income-tax rates of up to 60 per cent with capital-gains tax moving up sharply under Labour. They pointed out that Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, has said he will not hesitate to tackle "tax abuses and unfair privileges". John Orpen, head of the firm's private-client division, told them: "Labour keeps returning to its theme that it is the wealthy who are avoiding inheritance tax by exploiting the loopholes — loopholes it intends to reduce or close, which means that you, our audience, need to contemplate them promptly."

But Ewan Cameron, President of the Country Landowners' Association, said that his 50,000 members should not be panicking about Labour yet. "New Labour and the CLA have a lot in common and Tony Blair's enthusiasm for the countryside is refreshing," he said. "We have nothing to fear."

Howard denies asylum Bill is racist

BY JAMES LANDALE, POLITICAL REPORTER

MICHAEL HOWARD denied yesterday that his Asylum and Immigration Bill was immoral and rejected Labour claims that it would harm race relations.

Speaking as the Bill came up for second reading in the Commons, the Home Secretary told MPs that firm control of immigration was a vital part of maintaining racial stability. However, Labour accused the Government of trying to stir up racial tensions to win votes before the next election.

Mr Howard said he utterly rejected charges that the Bill was immoral. "It is not immoral to protect our asylum procedures against the current massive levels of abuse. It is not immoral to declare that in our judgment some countries do not give rise to a serious risk of persecution.

"It is not immoral to insist that people arriving from other democratic countries should return to pursue their claims there. It is not immoral to seek to protect employment opportunities for those entitled to live and work here." He was determined to maintain Britain's "proud record" on race relations. Firm immigration control was vital for that.

The Bill aims at cutting bogus asylum applications and speeding up appeals' procedures. It would create a "white list" of safe countries from which successful asylum applications are unlikely, a new offence for employers taking on illegal immigrants, and cut benefits for asylum seekers appealing against a rejected claim.

Jack Straw, the Shadow Home Secretary, said Labour would oppose the Bill and repeated the Opposition's call for the Bill to be sent to a special standing committee. He said the Tories were ready to stir up racial tension to win votes and warned: "This Bill is an enabling Bill, a blank-cheque Bill giving wide, ill-defined powers to the Secretary of State to use in regulations."

Forsyth warns of devolution danger to £14bn Scottish budget

BY GILLIAN BOWDITCH, SCOTLAND CORRESPONDENT

MICHAEL FORSYTH announced a £14.5 billion Scottish budget yesterday with a warning that any tampering with the Union could mean less money in future.

The Scottish Secretary said next year's budget, up from £14.3 billion this year, was more than 35 per cent higher per person, than funding for England. Such a good deal did not "fall into our laps", but depended on having a government committed to the present funding arrangements and a Scottish Secretary in the Cabinet to ensure Scotland's needs were given due prominence.

Referring to opposition parties' plans for devolution, he said: "To tamper with the Union could weaken irretrievably the ability of the Scottish Office to set and meet the sort of priorities I have outlined today." Those priorities include extra money for the police and the health service. The police authorities are to receive an extra £145 million over the next three years. The money will pay for 500 more officers — 300 of whom will be appointed next year — DNA testing and improved communications.

The National Health Service in Scotland is to receive a 3 per cent increase. A further £522 million will be switched from management to patient care over the next three years. Mr Forsyth said the extra money would enable the health service to treat 53,000 more patients.

The education budget of £1.27 billion has been frozen, as has that for roads and transport. Nursery vouchers for pre-school children will be introduced in Scotland next year and the Assisted Places Scheme, which helps families to send their children to private schools, will be doubled. The tourism budget is to rise by £3 million to £18 million.

But Mr Forsyth, addressing the Scottish Grand Committee, also called for belt-tightening and said cuts in Scottish Office administration would save £36 million. The £22 million plan to refurbish St Andrew's House, the Scottish Office's Edinburgh building, is to be shelved. Scottish Enterprise and Highlands and Islands Enterprise, which support Scottish business, are to have 7.5 per cent budget cuts.

George Robertson, Labour's Scottish spokesman, accused Mr Forsyth of "pretending to be some sort of tartan Santa Claus" when he was presenting about £660 million in cuts in real terms over the next three years.

Tories shrug off blunder

BY JILL SHERMAN, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT

SENIOR Cabinet ministers pledged yesterday to redouble their efforts to mount an aggressive propaganda campaign, despite Central Office's blunder last week in leaking a draft speech by Lord Mackay of Clashfern that was never made.

Attempts were also being made by senior Tories to play down rumours of a row between Michael Heseltine, the Deputy Prime Minister, and Brian Mawhinney, the Tory party chairman, over the presentation of policy.

A meeting of the Cabinet committee on the co-ordination of government presentation yesterday concluded that Dr Mawhinney should continue his high-profile campaign to try to match the tactics employed by Labour spin doctors. The ministers, including Michael Heseltine, Tony Newton, Viscount Cranborne and Dr Mawhinney, also emphasised that there should be no scapegoating of individuals, which would play into Labour's hands.

It was clear afterwards that Dr Mawhinney's colleagues were unhappy with the mistake made by his office last week when it briefed *The Daily Telegraph* on a speech the Lord Chancellor never made. Some ministers expressed concern that Labour had been able to exploit the mistake through the weekend.

Later the Deputy Prime Minister defended Dr Mawhinney as "a very valued and upright" member of the Government. But in the Commons Mr Heseltine repeatedly failed to answer questions posed by John Prescott, the Labour deputy leader, on the details of the leaked speech.

IN PARLIAMENT

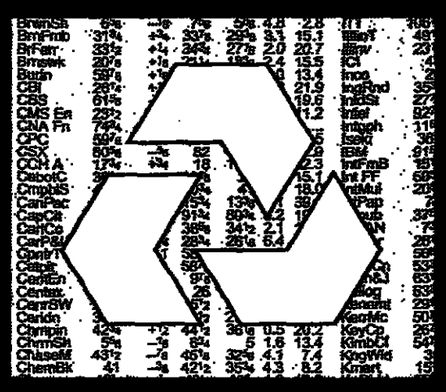
YESTERDAY In the Commons: questions to the Deputy Prime Minister, foreign ministers responsible for overseas development and the MP representing the Church Commissioners were followed by a debate on the Asylum and Immigration Bill, second reading.

In the Lords: debates on Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme; Education (Scotland) Bill, second reading; administration of the Lords.

TODAY In the Commons: questions to social security ministers and the Prime Minister. Debates on the Health Service Commissioners (Amendment) Bill, second reading; Rating (Caravans and Boats) Bill, second reading.

In the Lords, debates on next year's European Inter-governmental Conference; relations between Europe and the United States.

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East Europeans hope role in peace force will boost Nato membership credentials

Troops from 32 nations to join Balkan mission

BY MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

OPERATION Joint Endeavour, Nato's peace mission in Bosnia which will formally get under way after the treaty-signing ceremony in Paris on Thursday, will involve troops from up to 32 countries, including 20,000 soldiers from the United States and 22 from Luxembourg.

Every Nato country except Iceland, which has no army, is contributing troops and equipment for the 12-month deployment of the Implementation Force (Ifor).

Seventeen non-Nato countries have offered troops. Most of them have been accepted for the mission. The only countries not yet confirmed as participants are Bangladesh, Malaysia and Egypt. All three nations played a substantial role during the United Nations peacekeeping mission and are likely to join Nato's operation, but negotiations are still under way.

Planning for the peace operation has been so complex that Nato officials drew up three separate lists: "Green" for those countries all signed up and committed, "Amber" for the ones that have offered but with strings attached and "Red" for the countries whose involvement remains in some doubt.

Operation Joint Endeavour has provided an ideal opportunity for East European countries which want to become members of Nato to improve links with the alliance. Nato officials have said, however, that a willingness to join the Bosnia-Herzegovina operation would not be viewed as the next step towards alliance membership.

Polish commandos, Czech armoured units and troops from eight other former Warsaw Pact nations plan to deploy to Bosnia alongside their new Nato allies. Poland is expected to send up to 900 soldiers to join the American-led multinational division, based at Tuzla in northern Bosnia. The Czechs are offering an 800-strong mechanised battalion to serve with the British in western Bosnia.

Romania, Hungary, Slovakia and Ukraine are providing engineers, transport units, field hospitals and infantry. Russia has offered 1,500 to 2,000 soldiers. Ukraine has offered Nato the 24th Mechanised Battalion, which is serving in Sarajevo with the UN at present, and a 500-man logistics unit. It is also offering ten transport aircraft but expects to be reimbursed for any airlifts.

Hungary, which has been chosen as a staging post for the American 1st Armoured Division, has offered 500 engineers for road and bridge building, but wants its troops to be armed only with personal weapons.

All three Baltic States were eager to get involved. Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia have professed a desire to become members of Nato and this will be their first chance to demonstrate their skills. Latvia hopes to send 150 soldiers next March or April, depending on financial arrangements.

The Latvian soldiers will arrive in Bosnia looking like British troops because they come from the new Baltic peacekeeping battalion which is being formed with the help of the British armed forces. A Latvian diplomat in London said: "They have been instructed in the British drill. It is not our way, but we are people who can quickly change."

The three smallest contingents will be from Lithuania and Estonia, each expected to send 30 soldiers to serve with the Danes and Finns respectively, and from Luxembourg which has offered 22 soldiers and 11 vehicles.

There are still some uncertainties over where some of the troops will be based and what their role will be. The Belgians have offered about 1,000 troops, but 700 of them are still on United Nations peacekeeping duties in Croatia's Eastern Slavonia province, which is returning to Croatian control after being overrun by Serb forces in 1991.

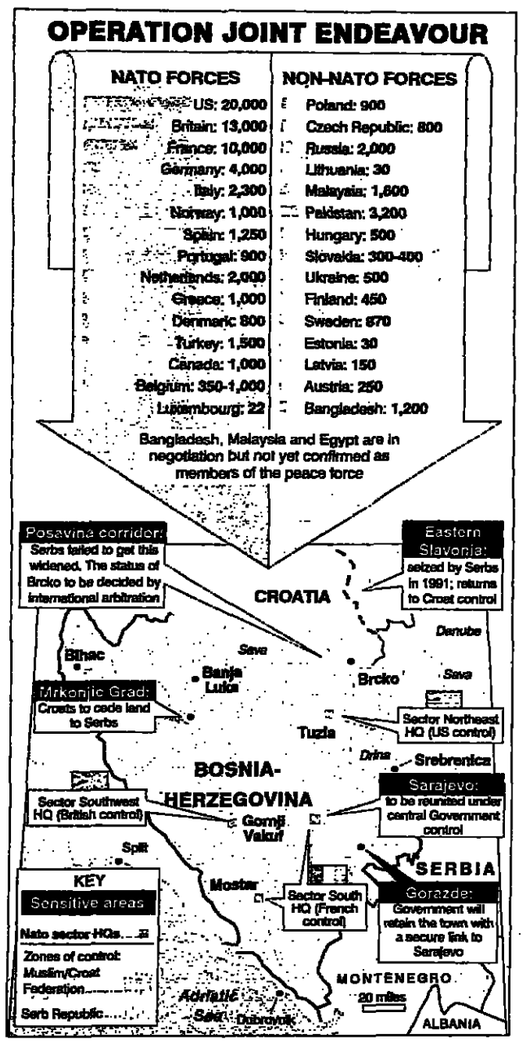
The Belgian Government wants to keep the 700 soldiers in Eastern Slavonia, where they are serving alongside a Russian battalion. Belgium has called on Nato allies to send more troops to the area because of the potential danger of conflict if the handover to Croatian control leads to violence. It is not clear whether this operation will continue to be under UN control or whether it will switch to Nato command.

In addition, a police task force is to be sent to Bosnia to reintroduce law and order into a country that has been overrun with bandits, black marketeers and thieves during the three and a half years of war.

The officers, some of whom may come from Britain, are to be deployed by the UN across Bosnia as the 60,000-man international peace implementation force keeps the warring factions apart over the next 12 months.



Students demonstrate for a united Sarajevo yesterday as Bosnian Serbs prepared for a referendum on the city's status



Villagers await boom and lust

FROM ADAM LEBOR AT TASZAR AIR BASE, HUNGARY

A VILLAGE in southern Hungary is looking forward to an economic boom in its new role as staging post for 20,000 American Nato troops going to Bosnia. The Pentagon chose Taszar, with a population of 2,000 and home to a former Warsaw Pact air base, as it is only 30 miles from the Croatian border.

Agnes Tapaszti, a local bar owner, said: "We Hungarians are used to having foreigners coming and going through our country. We have had the Turks, Austrians, Germans, Soviets and now the Americans. At least they are an increase in quality.

"Someone in a car with diplomatic plates has already come in and looked around, and told us we needed some Western cigarettes and drinks if the soldiers came here. This is a financial opportunity we have to make the most of."

The operation to bring US troops to southern Hungary started in earnest at the weekend with the arrival of 111 soldiers, who will create "an intermediate staging base" in readiness for the peace force.

"You'll have approximately 20,000 of the Nato forces flowing through here," said Colonel Ron Williams, who flew in on the first C130 from Ramstein in Germany. About 3,000 troops will be stationed at Taszar and in nearby Kaposvar. A third of them will be engineers and the rest logistical staff.

But some inhabitants of Kaposvar said they feared an influx of crime and Aids. "We are a peaceful community here. It is all going to change," said Tamas Talos. "It is not like when the Russians were here. They were never allowed to leave their base.

"These Americans will be free to roam all over the town. On television, you see GIs in Germany getting into fights on the street. I can imagine a prostitute waiting on every street corner."

Pragmatist wins all sides' respect

BY OLIVER AUGUST

MAN IN THE NEWS

IT WAS Michael Steiner who managed to nail down the Dayton peace deal in Ohio. As the representative of Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, he succeeded, where President Clinton had failed, in persuading President Tudjman of Croatia to sign up to the accord.

Now he will be the linchpin in the effort to rebuild Bosnia, after his appointment at the weekend as the Deputy High Representative for the Peace Implementation Council. He said: "What I want to do is to show the people there that peace pays."

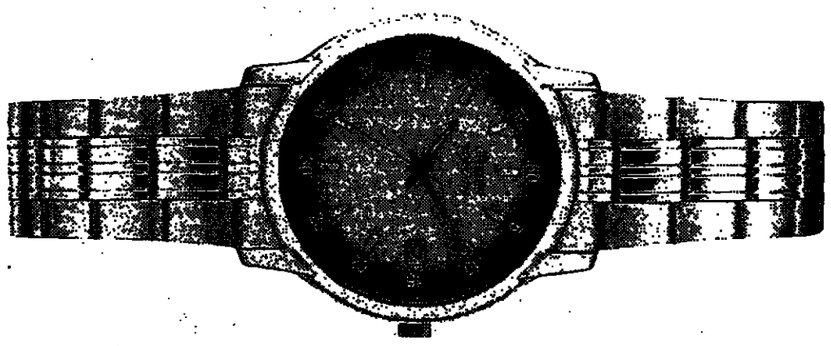
Herr Steiner, 46, has had a lot of experience of Balkan politics. German officials emphasise that his candidacy was supported by all factions in Bosnia as well as by Carl Bildt, the High Representative and former European Union mediator to Bosnia. Mr Bildt, who will be based in Brussels, will be responsible for international lobbying, while Herr Steiner, in Sarajevo, will implement the measures agreed at last weekend's London conference. These will include a programme to rebuild houses and restart public services.

Herr Steiner, a pragmatist, is the right man for the job, say Foreign Office officials.



Steiner: German expert is right man for the job

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Ordeal of pilots' families adds to pressure on Chirac

FROM BEN MACINTYRE IN PARIS

EARLY reports that two French pilots shot down over Bosnia last summer are still alive have brought hope to the airmen's anxious wives, but also the grim realisation that the men may have become political pawns in the hands of their captors.

Pavle Bulatovic, Defence Minister of the former Yugoslavia, told a Nato delegation visiting Belgrade that Bosnian Serbs would soon issue a "positive statement" on the missing men, raising hopes that Captain Frédéric Chiffot and Lieutenant José Souvignet, whose Mirage 2000 was shot down over the Bosnian Serb stronghold of Pale on August 30, may be alive and well. The statement would "satisfy" relations of the missing men, Mr Bulatovic said.

The families of the missing airmen have mounted a vigorous campaign to draw attention to them, striking a chord with the French public and bringing intense pressure to bear on the Government of President Chirac. With the Bosnian peace pact due to be signed in Paris on Thursday, M Chirac responded last week by threatening unspecified reprisals unless the Bosnian Serbs provided concrete information on their whereabouts by midnight on Sunday.

M Chirac telephoned President Milosevic of Serbia five times, emphasising with increasing frustration that he holds him directly responsible for the pilots' safety. But as Sunday's ultimatum came and went, France appeared to back away from its threats, saying only that the peace process was being threatened by the lack of word about the downed pilots.

The French President agreed to meet the pilots' wives tomorrow after they accused the Government of dragging its heels and threatened to attend the signing ceremony. For Nathalie Chiffot and Isabelle Souvignet, government pressure to solve the mystery surrounding the fate of their husbands is welcome but belated, in the wake of four months of nightmarish uncertainty.

"We learnt everything from newspapers and the television. The Ministry of Defence told us nothing," Mme Souvignet said. "To sign the Bosnian peace treaty before our husbands are on their way home is out of the question."

The French Government has said that the signing will go ahead as planned.

The ordeal of the two wives has sparked widespread public sympathy across France and support committees have circulated a petition calling on the Government to increase pressure for the release of the men. Captain Chiffot's father has lobbied local politicians in the South of France, while the symphony orchestra in Nancy held a fund-raising concert last week near the air base in Lorraine where the two men were stationed.

Since August the pilot's families have swung between hope and despair amid conflicting reports from Bosnia, first that the men were alive and well, but later suggesting they had been murdered, abducted or remain seriously injured in captivity.

In September, *Paris Match* magazine published photographs of the downed pilots, raising hopes of an imminent release. That was followed by strenuous but hitherto fruitless efforts, official and covert, to obtain firm news of the men and to win their release. One French report last week said that one of the men had had a leg amputated and that both were receiving hospital treatment and were too ill to be moved.

In October, Radovan Karadzic, the Bosnian Serb leader, said the men had been abducted by Muslim terrorists from a hospital in Pale.

The pilots' wives and their lawyer say that until last week the Government kept them in the dark and refused to make too big an issue of the missing men for fear of derailing the peace process. "I have been waiting a long time for that," Mme Souvignet told *Le Journal du Dimanche* after M Chirac issued his ultimatum last Tuesday.

But for the pilots' families the waiting may not be over yet. Despite the reports suggesting that the men are alive, speculation is rising that they might be hostages of General Ratko Mladic, the Bosnian Serb forces' chief, who could try to use them as a bargaining chip.

Mr Karadzic has also implied that he could accelerate the release of the men in exchange for assurances about the future of the Bosnian Serb population in Sarajevo. That suggestion was flatly dismissed by the French Government.





Lieutenant Souvignet, left, and Captain Chiffot: the downed officers' fate remains a mystery

Juppé to talk with all union leaders next week

BY BEN MACINTYRE

IN a fresh concession to the unions whose strikes have paralysed France for the past 19 days, Alain Juppé, the Prime Minister, last night announced that the Government would hold meetings next week with all union leaders on the entire range of employment issues.

Earlier, striking French unions widened their demands after a series of meetings between M Juppé and union leaders ended in deadlock and a fresh burst of union defiance.

Marc Blondel, leader of the Force Ouvrière union, demanded negotiations over wages and unemployment, as well as M Juppé's package of welfare reforms which sparked the continuing wave of strikes.

"I urged global talks, involving unions as well as business leaders and most certainly the Government, which should focus not only on the current crisis, but also on matters of unemployment and wages," M Blondel said, in fighting mood after meeting with the Prime Minister.

Union leaders also renewed calls for increased strike action and mass demonstrations to mark another day of action today as the crippling public-sector strike enters its nineteenth day.

After flatly refusing to negotiate for more than two weeks, M Juppé suddenly announced on Sunday that he was now prepared to hold direct meetings with union heads. He also offered concessions on some crucial aspects of welfare reform, while standing firm on the central planks of his plan to overhaul the indebted social security system and to reduce France's deficit in time for European monetary union.

But, instead of defusing the protest, the Government's more malleable stance seemed only to have bred new confidence and increased militancy among the strikers, who may now scent victory.

Most strike leaders appeared unready to compromise as they emerged, one after another, from face-to-face meetings with the Prime Minister. The unions and the Government remain "completely opposed", Louis Viannet, leader of the Communist-led CGT union, said, adding that there was "no way out of the crisis for the moment".

M Viannet predicted that another day of action — today — would be massive and could "contribute to make the Government budge".

In his televised interview on Sunday, M Juppé offered several important concessions in a bid to buy off the striking railway workers who have provided much of the momentum in the current protest, including the deferring of plans to overhaul the debt-saddled national railway system and a promise that train drivers will continue to retire at 50. But he also insisted that the core elements of his welfare reform plan would be pushed through, by government decree if necessary.

The unions, however, called the concessions "inadequate" and repeated their demands for the entire plan to be scrapped, followed by full negotiations on a range of issues.

Most observers have described M Juppé's altered, and so far unsuccessful, stance as a climbdown by the hard-pressed Government.

"Alain Juppé takes a step back," declared one headline in the Paris press. "Juppé sounds the retreat," announced another newspaper.

"Negotiations must end with something concrete, a document, promises," M Blondel said before meeting the Prime Minister.

Although public-sector workers have begun trickling back to work in the last few days, union leaders predicted another huge turnout in response to today's renewed strike call. Last week more than one million people took to the streets, and M Juppé has said that if the number of demonstrators exceeds two million his Government will collapse.

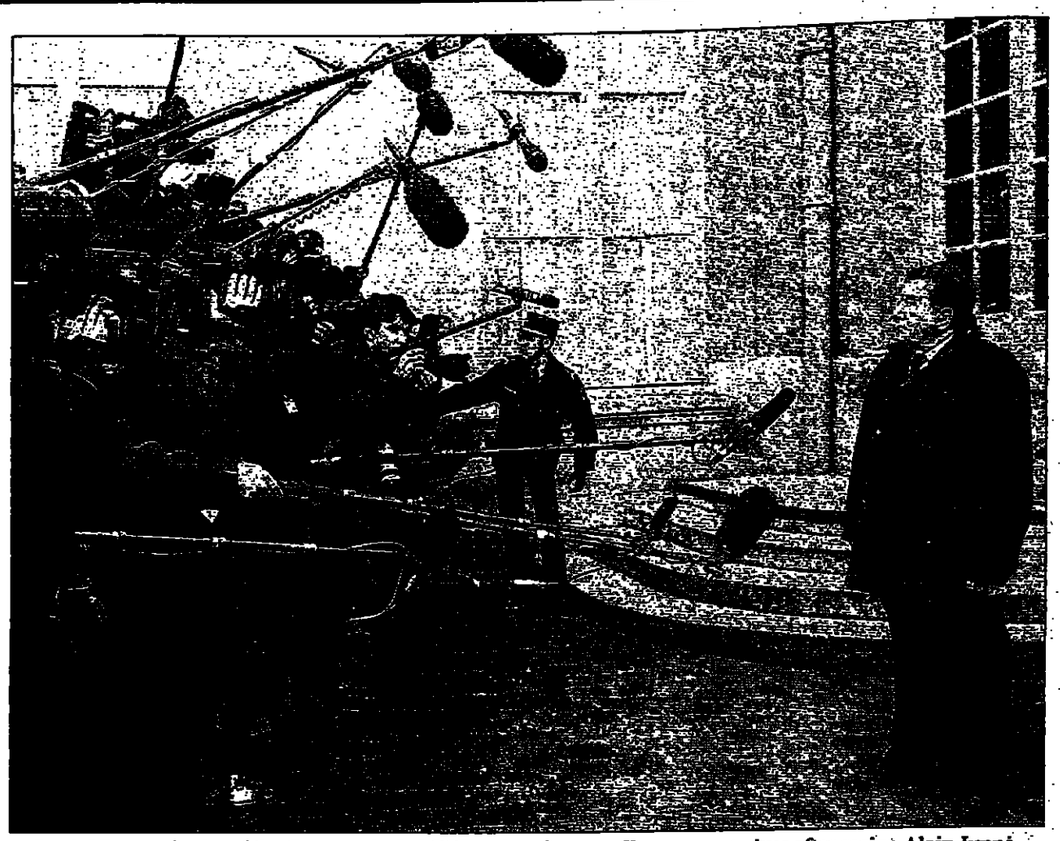
The Prime Minister said he was not averse, in principle, to a "social summit" involving all union leaders. "The important thing is to get around a table and find a solution," M Juppé said, noting that continued strikes would have "catastrophic economic consequences". But M Blondel said after yesterday's meeting that he believed M Juppé was not prepared to open wide-ranging negotiations.

The Prime Minister must now walk a fine line, since further concessions would seriously undermine his remaining credibility. Financial markets responded nervously to the perceived government retreat and the franc lost ground in early trading. The opposition Socialist Party has tabled more than 5,000 amendments to legislation that would enable the Government to push through reforms by decree, but M Juppé is expected to employ a constitutional amendment to cut short debate and sidestep the attempted filibuster.

France remained at a standstill yesterday with no trains, underground or bus services in the capital and many other cities. Airline unions have called for another strike on Friday and Saturday, compounding the pre-Christmas travel chaos. The South of France suffered a series of power cuts yesterday as striking electricity workers continued to disrupt power production.

The strikes have affected other public sectors such as hospitals, the post office, schools and docks.

In the southwestern city of Bordeaux, where M Juppé is Mayor, rubbish continued to pile up in the streets as a strike by rubbish collectors continued for a seventh consecutive day. Bus drivers and dock workers also maintained the work stoppage.



Louis Viannet, leader of the Communist-led CGT union, faces media representatives after seeing Alain Juppé, the Prime Minister, at the Hotel Mâtignon in Paris yesterday. There was "total disgreement", he told reporters

> Instead of defusing the protest, the Government's more malleable stance has bred new confidence and militancy among strikers, who may now scent victory



Juppé: concessions did not end strike chaos

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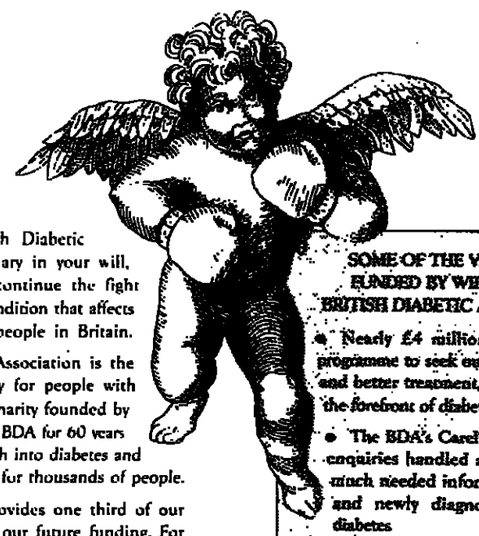
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Dini backs Kohl on deadline for single currency

FROM PETER BILD IN BONN AND JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

LAMBERTO DINI, the Italian Prime Minister, last night distanced himself from British scepticism over Europe's single currency and underlined his support for French and German plans for monetary union starting in 1999.

After a meeting in Bonn with Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, Signor Dini did confirm that he supported British ideas for a deeper study of the effects of a single currency on European Union states both inside and outside it. But he was clear that Italy backs the single currency timetable set out in the Maastricht treaty, even though the Italian economy is unlikely to qualify as a founder member of a new currency zone. The study could be completed within two years, he said.

Hints that Italy might help Britain to slow down progress towards a single currency — news that emerged after a meeting between John Major and Signor Dini last week — appear to have been overplayed by Downing Street. Their meeting in Florence took place a day before a summit between Herr Kohl and President Chirac.

"The date for a decision to be taken on EMU remains spring 1998. There must be no delay and no procrastination," Signor Dini said. Noting growing convergence among members, he said that even Italy might qualify in 1998 to join a currency club the following year. The Italian leader backed the Kohl-Chirac line that weakening the Maastricht criteria or delaying the timetable for EMU "would be a big risk that Europe cannot afford". He said that it was false to interpret his meeting with Mr Major as support for slowing progress towards full monetary union.

Italy takes over the European presidency from Spain next year and will host the start of the inter-governmental conference at the end of March to plan enlargement and to reshape the institutions of the EU. The exercise is due for completion by mid-1997.

Signor Dini highlighted problems that could arise between members and non-members of a single currency club, the so-called "ins" and "outs", after 1999. Germany is worried about potential currency devaluations among the "outs" which would damage its export competitiveness. Italy is concerned that it could come under huge pressure from foreign exchange markets to raise interest rates to defend the lira, which could make single currency membership a distant dream.

"We have to be sure that economic and monetary union does not put the whole European edifice at risk," Signor Dini said. He added that he had told Herr Kohl that Italians were strongly pro-European; that was true whatever the complexion of the Government.

Without directly criticising Franco-German plans, Signor Dini was sceptical about the Kohl-Chirac move to insert a clause into the Maastricht treaty to enable members to opt out of decisions on European integration without holding up the rest of the Union. The proposed clause is seen as a warning shot to Britain to avoid foot-dragging, which would exclude it from the core of European decision-making.

Signor Dini opposed proposals to create a two-speed Europe. "Anything which tends to divide European countries would be negative," he said.

Yesterday, the Italian parliament began examining Signor Dini's 1996 budget to ensure that it would put Rome on course for meeting EMU targets. The Prime Minister is intent on reducing Italy's budget deficit from about 7.9 per cent of gross domestic product to the Maastricht maximum of 3 per cent.



Dini: rejecting British calls for EMU delay



A policeman checks the debris after a letter bomb exploded yesterday at a post office in Graz, southern Austria. A second device did not explode. Police believe that the incident and earlier letter bomb attacks, in which four people died, were the work of right-wing extremists (Marcia Hill writes). Nobody was injured in the blast in Graz, which is 100 miles south of Vienna. "It was like a flash of blue lightning. I thought it was a firecracker," one witness said. Police are examining the second unexploded bomb. This is the fifth series of bombs since 1993. Four men were killed in Oberwart last February and more than 12 people have been injured, including Helmut Zilk, the former Mayor of Vienna. Police have issued a warning that the bombs have become more sophisticated and could be detonated by high-frequency radio signals, such as those from mobile phones.

Austria mail blast

Killing of children becoming war tactic

BY PETER CAPELLA

WITH two million killed and about four million disabled in the past ten years, children are increasingly becoming the targets as well as the victims of modern warfare, according to Unicef.

In its annual report, *The State Of The World's Children*, the United Nations Children's Fund says that 90 per cent of the victims of conflict are civilians instead of soldiers, compared with 70 per cent during the Second World War and about 50 per cent in the 19th century.

The agency claims that children are the most vulnerable, and often face the choice of being viewed as a future enemy or being recruited as soldiers. The report quotes one inflammatory radio broadcast in Rwanda shortly before the genocide which said "to kill the big rats, you have to kill the little rats".

The agency blames more lightweight weapons for the "frightening escalation" in the number of child soldiers in 25 countries. It says children can be proficient killers and better soldiers than adults. "They do as they are told, they are less likely to run away and they do not demand salaries," according to the report.

Unicef also highlights the deliberate use of sexual violence against children in recent wars. During fighting in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Croatia, teenagers were deliberately raped "to force them to bear the enemy's child".

Unicef has produced an anti-war agenda that includes a pledge to boycott companies linked with landmine production. The report also underlines substantial progress in children's welfare accomplished in more peaceful regions in the past 35 years.

☐ **Congress critic:** Daniel Spiegel, the US Ambassador to the United Nations in Geneva, delivered an unprecedented attack yesterday on "forces of reaction and isolation" in Congress, accusing them of driving the UN to the brink of bankruptcy with massive cuts in American contributions. "They are turning our country into the international equivalent of a deadbeat dad, the absent father who won't support his children," he said.

Weary voters shun Zhirinovsky

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S nationalist demagogue, Vladimir Zhirinovsky, who was once tipped for the Kremlin leadership, is resorting to shock tactics to avert a humiliating defeat in parliamentary elections on Sunday.

According to the latest opinion polls and expert predictions, the maverick neo-Fascist, who secured nearly a quarter of the vote two years ago, is likely only to scrape into parliament.

"The electorate of Vladimir Zhirinovsky's Liberal Democratic Party of Russia is dwindling away and the party will be forgotten six months after the paliamentary elections," the *Rossiiskiye Vesti* newspaper predicted in an analysis of its decline.

An opinion poll released at the weekend showed the party in sixth place with just over the 5 per cent required to qualify for seats in parliament. The survey, published in the daily *Nezavisimaya Gazeta*, suggested that Mr Zhirinovsky's party had secured 5.7 per cent support. The Communists had 22.9 per cent, the centrist Our Home is Russia had 10.9 per cent, the centre-Left Women of Russia had advanced to 10 per cent, the liberal Yabloko had 9.5 per cent and the nationalist Congress of Russian Communities had 6.5 per cent.

The opinion poll appeared to confirm that Mr Zhirinovsky's opponents have learnt from his skilful 1993 campaign, when he manipulated the media and presented the only nationalist platform.

His attempt to repeat his coup has landed him in trouble. The Central Election Commission warned the ultra-nationalist at the weekend that, unless he toned down his rhetoric, it would recommend that his party be banned from participating in the elections.



In one of his latest outbursts, Mr Zhirinovsky made an unusually bitter attack on President Yeltsin and played on racial and ethnic strains. "Yeltsin today is like Brezhnev at the end of 1982," he said. "He is a puppet. They wheel him in and wheel him out."

He also delivered a warning that if he came to power he would drop napalm on several villages in the breakaway republic of Chechenia if one Russia were killed by rebels. He also said that a vote for the reformists was a vote for the Jews. Despite such tactics, experts predicted that it was too late for a comeback, even allowing for Mr Zhirinovsky's considerable debating talents on television and the large percentage of undecided voters.

"Everyone knows everything by now, preferences have been made and the television campaign causes nothing but heartburn," said Mark Urnov, the head of the presidential analytical centre.

☐ **Chechen ambush:** Akhmed Zakayev, a minister in the Chechen separatist government who has been involved in peace talks with Russia, was seriously injured and several other people were killed in an ambush on their convoy, Tass reported yesterday. Russian military sources said the attack happened near a Russian military post about 20 miles from Grozny, the Chechen capital. *(AFP)*

Businessman on corruption charges to be head of Fiat

FROM JOHN PHILLIPS IN ROME

CESARE ROMITI, the managing director of Fiat who Italian magistrates want to try on corruption charges, yesterday was named the new chairman of the vast industrial empire to replace Gianni Agnelli.

A brief Fiat statement said that Signor Agnelli, who will turn 75 in March, is to leave the chairmanship of Italy's largest private company "in the next months". The appointment of Signor Romiti was a surprise because of the judicial woes of the managing director. Signor Agnelli's brother, Umberto, had been widely expected to take over the Fiat helm.

Signor Agnelli "will remain always close to Fiat for the most important decisions" since he remains chairman of the IFI holding company that owns the industrial group, the statement said. The magnate previously announced in 1992 that he would stand down by 1994, but he remained as chairman to navigate his empire through a difficult period.

Magistrates in Turin last week requested that Signor Romiti stand trial on corruption charges together with the chief financial officer of the company, Francesco Paolo. Signor Romiti is frequently quoted on national economic and political issues. Most recently, the Fiat managing director had caused a minor political storm by indicating he has more faith in the former Communists, the Democratic Party of the Left (PDS), than the conservative Freedom Alliance, led by media tycoon Silvio Berlusconi, who faces trial on corruption charges next month. Political commentators interpreted this as an attempt to curry favour with the magistrates in Turin.

Signor Agnelli told a conference of managers in Turin yesterday that Fiat now has "overcome the emergency phase of its accounts" and that he therefore would reinsert into the company statute a clause stipulating an age limit of 75 for operational jobs.

He said Signor Romiti will "assume responsibility of the company in the next years" to guide the "generational changeover" towards a younger management. It is assumed Giovanni Agnelli, Umberto's son, will eventually take control of the dynasty.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Six die in Madrid bombing

Madrid: Suspected Basque terrorists detonated a car bomb in a busy plaza of the Spanish capital yesterday afternoon, killing six people and injuring 18 others, three seriously, just days before a European Union summit here (Edward Owen writes).

Five of the six dead were civilian employees of the Spanish Navy, travelling in an unmarked minibus. The other fatality was a woman passer-by. Police suspected that the blast was caused by about 50kg of chemicals detonated by Eta separatists.

Nerve gas pleas

Tokyo: Two senior members of the Aum Shinrikyo cult pleaded guilty at a public hearing to spreading sarin gas in Tokyo's subways last March in an attack that killed 12 people, reports said. *(AP)*

Desert storms

Dubai: Heavy rains, hail and fog hit the desert Arab Gulf states, killing nine people in a road accident in Saudi Arabia and causing flight delays in the United Arab Emirates, officials reported. *(AFP)*

Arson deaths

Athens: An Albanian father, two of his children and a nephew died, and four other members of his family were in critical condition, after arsonists set fire to their apartment here. *(AP)*

Kaifu to quit

Tokyo: The former Prime Minister, Toshiki Kaifu, is to quit as leader of Japan's main opposition party, Shinshinto, and will back its secretary-general, Ichiro Ozawa, as his successor. *(Reuter)*

Burns victim dies

New York: Harvey Kaufman, 50, the subway clerk badly burnt when robbers set fire to his booth in a attack copied from a new film, *The Money Train*, has died. There have been more such raids. *(Reuter)*

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Democrats exploit Gingrich factor in California poll

FROM MARTIN FLETCHER IN WASHINGTON

THE people of San Jose, California, vote today in a congressional by-election, and the result will reverberate across the continent.

The Democrats have shamelessly turned the contest into a referendum on Newt Gingrich, believing that the man hailed as America's de facto President barely a year ago has become the Republican Party's biggest liability.

Just as the Republicans seized Congress by running against President Clinton in November last year, so the Democrats see challenging the House Speaker as their route to recovery next November.

Tom Campbell, the Republican candidate in San Jose, is a social moderate who disagrees with much of Mr Gingrich's agenda, but you would never know that from listening to Jerry Estruth, his Democratic opponent.

"Mr Gingrich has the most radical agenda in the history of the country," Mr Estruth, a stockbroker, told every campaign rally. "Do you want to continue what Newt Gingrich has been doing, or do you want to say no to Newt Gingrich's agenda? If you're satisfied with the direction he is taking the country, then vote for Tom Campbell."

The Democrats' campaign literature refers to the "Gingrich-Campbell team". California's Democratic Party chairman even offered to fly Mr Gingrich out from Washington so he could campaign for his "old friend and ally, Tom Campbell". The strategy has paid off; Mr Estruth has steadily eroded Mr Campbell's daunting lead to the point that today's outcome is too close to call.

Ron Wyden, the Democratic candidate in a Senate by-election in Oregon next month, is also portraying his race against a moderate Republican as a "choice between mainstream values and extreme values".

The public has recoiled in recent weeks from the perceived harshness of Mr Gingrich's "Republican Revolution". He is being investigated by an independent counsel for alleged campaign finance violations. The majority of Americans see him as abrasive and confrontational, and his petulant complaints about ill-treatment on Air Force One last month made him the subject of national ridicule.

Polls show that the Speaker is now as unpopular as President Nixon was at the height of the Watergate scandal and Republican congressmen have begun distancing themselves from him. Even Mr Gingrich has admitted that he fears he is undermining his own "revolution". When he returned to Washington, he promised to adopt a lower profile — a pledge few believe he is capable of fulfilling.



Lisa Marie Presley leaves Beth Israel Medical Centre North in New York after visiting her husband Michael Jackson, the pop star. Doctors said he was showing signs of recovering from a viral ailment that made him collapse at a rehearsal last week

Peres urges US to break Syria talks deadlock

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

SHIMON PERES, the Israeli Prime Minister, urged the United States yesterday to help to break the deadlock in peace negotiations with Syria and bring an end to conflict in the Middle East.

In his first visit to Washington since the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, Mr Peres was expected to discuss with President Clinton the possibility of a formal alliance between Israel and America and to offer proposals to revive stalled talks with Damascus over the Golan Heights.

From his first day in office after the death of Mr Rabin last month, Mr Peres has made peace with Syria an overriding priority and said he had brought a number of ideas to the White House to help in engineering a settlement. In earlier visits to Jordan and Egypt, Mr Peres appeared to have gained support for a Syrian deal from King Husain and President Mubarak.

"The Syrians are sending messages that they are prepared to listen to new proposals," he said at a memorial rally for Mr Rabin in New York's Madison Square Garden the previous day. "Now maybe we can [make] peace with Syria and Lebanon. If we succeed, this shall be the end of war in the Middle East."

Syria and Israel last held talks in June; they foundered over Israeli demands for early-warning stations on the Golan Heights, the plateau captured during the 1967 war which has become a symbol of division between the two countries. Syria has always made peace conditional on a complete withdrawal of Israeli forces from Golan, while Israel has said that the scope of its pullout must depend on Syria's willingness for peace.

America has been working behind the scenes to push the process forward before the Peres visit. Mr Clinton has made the Middle East a foreign policy priority since the start of his Administration.

Dennis Ross, the chief US mediator in the Middle East, has held meetings with President Assad of Syria and it was announced that Warren Christopher, the Secretary of State, would visit Jerusalem and Damascus soon after Mr Peres's trip to Washington.

Jerusalem: Israel is to build another 100 homes for Jewish settlers on the annexed Golan Heights which the Syrian Government wants back in exchange for peace, officials said yesterday.

Binyamin Ben-Eliezer, the Housing Minister, approved the building of the flats at Katzrin on Sunday, said Sammy Bar-Lev, the mayor of the Golan's main Jewish settlement. (AFP)

☐ **Rabat:** Mr Peres plans to discuss ways of accelerating the Middle East peace process when he meets King Hassan of Morocco on his return from Washington tomorrow (Mark Huband writes). A senior source close to the King confirmed yesterday that Mr Peres had requested the meeting with the monarch in Rabat. Morocco has been encouraging the Israelis and Palestinians to exploit the momentum for peace created by the Rabin assassination.

Husain orders arrest of Israeli deal critic

BY CHRISTOPHER WALKER, MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT

KING HUSAIN of Jordan has launched a crackdown against opponents of his 14-month peace treaty with Israel by sanctioning the arrest of one of his most outspoken and popular critics. Laith Shubailat has been charged with creating civil strife, an offence that could carry a death sentence.

Jordanian officials said the Hashemite monarch was trying to break down resistance among the Islamic-dominated professional unions, which represent more than 100,000 people. They have ordered the expulsion of any member working with Israelis.

Mr Shubailat, the head of the 35,000-strong engineers' union and a former MP, was arrested at the weekend, sparking widespread protests. A judicial source in Amman said he had been "charged with violating the dignity of the King and incitement in breach of the criminal law".

He could face a life sentence with hard labour for incitement of civil war or calling on Jordanians to take up arms against each other, although the death sentence can also be applied if the incitement leads to material damage.

Before his arrest, Mr Shubailat said: "Jordan is boiling and sitting under a revolution much bigger than the 1989 revolution." He was referring to riots that erupted over soaring prices and prompted the King to call the first election since 1967.

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Peking may allow foreign press to attend Wei's trial

FROM JONATHAN MIRSKY IN HONG KONG

THE trial of Wei Jingsheng, China's most famous dissident, will open tomorrow and foreign reporters may be permitted to attend while Mr Wei defends himself, it was announced yesterday.

However, no foreign lawyers will be allowed to defend Mr Wei, the spokesman for the Peking Intermediate People's Court said. An international committee of former Attorneys-General, including Nicholas Katzenbach and Richard Thornburgh who served Presidents Lyndon Johnson and George Bush, chief justices, and bar chairmen from America, Canada, Britain, Singapore, and France have applied for visas to join in Mr Wei's defence.

He is charged with planning to overthrow the State and faces a minimum ten-year sedition sentence and possible execution. In 1979 he was sentenced to 15 years in prison after publishing essays and writing wall posters attacking the Communist Party, Mao Tse-tung and Deng Xiaoping.

Briefly released in 1993, Mr Wei was rearrested last year. After 20 months it was announced that he would be tried for sedition. He was nominated for a Nobel Prize this year. The spokesman for the Peking court said that, in accordance with the country's procuratorial system, judges were interrogating Mr Wei to examine the state procurator's charges. "There is no need for Wei's family to be present," he said. "This practice is the same the world over."

A panel of judges will conduct the trial, which could last only one day. In accordance with the maxim "verdict first, trial later", Chinese courts rarely find defendants not guilty and Mr Wei's punishment is likely to be harsh. "You could not call this a secret trial. It is open," the spokesman said.

He added that Mr Wei's family could attend as well as "the public", which in China means selected witnesses. Some experts believe that Mr Wei may be deported, perhaps on medical grounds, in accordance with past trials of well-known dissidents — most recently that of the US citizen Harry Wu, who received a 15-year sentence for penetrating China's gulag system, but was expelled to the United States on the same day.

However, Mr Wu was an American for whom the White House spoke strongly. Other well-known Chinese dissidents who have been expelled in past years served as chips in Sino-American bargaining.

That game essentially is over and Peking knows it. In 1993, Mr Wei himself wrote to President Clinton that, for American capitalists, "anything goes" and that "hostage transactions used the freedom of the prisoner as a bargaining chip in the economic poker game". But soon after his release in 1993 Mr Wei also said that, without international pressure, he would have died in prison.

When Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, visited Peking last month he handed over a list of political prisoners to his hosts, with Mr Wei's name at the top. When Peking responded by announcing its intention to try him, America and other countries responded tepidly. During his recent summit with President Jiang Zemin in New York, President Clinton is said to have inquired about Mr Wei and three other prisoners.

That contrasts with previous years when the officials of the United States and other countries made a point of inquiring about imprisoned dissidents — sometimes numbering several hundred — whose names were on lists.

In March 1993 John Shattuck, the Assistant Secretary of State for Human Rights, met Mr Wei in Peking. Mr Wei was almost immediately rearrested, as was his secretary, who remains in prison. Since then most of the very small dissident community in China, who in any event were in only loose contact with each other, have been silenced. At least a dozen members have disappeared without trace into the maw of the security police system.

Of those, Wang Dan, who had already served a four-year sentence as a Tiananmen "black hand" and been paroled, is the most famous. His mother and the wives and mothers of other detainees have clamoured for news of their relations but without success.



Wei: foreign lawyers have been excluded

Leading article, page 19



Three rare Sumatran tiger cubs make their public debut at Taronga Zoo in Sydney yesterday, six and a half weeks after their birth. The species is close to extinction, with at most 600 in the wild and 200 in captivity

Rwanda tells aid agencies to leave

FROM SAM KILEY IN NAIROBI

RWANDA yesterday ordered 38 aid agencies running programmes worth millions of dollars to leave the country within a week and leave their vehicles and equipment behind. The move was seen as a protest against the slow prosecution of those responsible for the genocide of a million Rwandans last year.

The Rwandan Government, dominated by the Tutsi tribe, appears to have targeted French agencies in particular, because the French Government supported the previous regime with arms and ammunition up to, and during, the genocide committed by Paris's allies.

Agencies ordered to leave include Médecins sans Frontières (France), Action International Contre Le Faim (France), Terre des Hommes Suisse, Médecins du Monde and Care Australia. The expulsions of Médecins sans Frontières and Care are particularly puzzling because the two organisations have been strong supporters of the Rwandan Government's demands that Hutu extremists who planned the atrocities last year should be tried and punished, rather than receive international aid donations in their camps in Zaire and Tanzania.

Médecins sans Frontières France and Care Canada have refused to work inside the Hutu refugee camps in protest at intimidation of their workers and the rearming of the Hutus by French arms suppliers, which continued at least until last July, after a million Tutsis and Hutu moderates had been slaughtered in Rwanda.

Christine Umutoni, the Deputy Rehabilitation Minister, said that the expulsions were irreversible because the relief organisations had been given a year to register with the Government and had failed to comply. "All equipment destined for relief is supposed to remain in Rwanda, with local non-governmental organisations or with other government agencies," she said.

The Government, smarting at the slow response of donors in supplying it aid directly, has already ordered the 1,800 United Nations "blue helmets" stationed there to leave.

Embassies tighten security after Hun Sen denounces the West

FROM TOM WALKER IN PHNOM PENH

WESTERN embassies are tightening their security arrangements and expatriates have been advised to stock food after Hun Sen, Cambodia's Prime Minister, stepped up his attacks on "foreign interference" in the affairs of his destitute country.

Speaking outside a military rehabilitation centre at the weekend, the former Communist repeated his threat of demonstrations against Western powers, defying calls for the release of Prince Norodom Sirivudh from jail. He also promised a new clampdown on press freedoms.

"I have called for a patriotic movement to protect the independent sovereignty of this country," he said in a rambling diatribe before 2,000 crippled soldiers, Buddhist monks and flag-waving children. "Let Khmer solve Khmer problems themselves."

Swinging from one extreme to another, Mr Hun Sen backtracked from threats he made last week — taped and verified — to storm embassy compounds, promising instead that any errant demonstrators would be shot. "If they disturb embassies," he said, "please shoot on the spot. Embassies can be considered as independent land."

Far from reassuring diplomats, his remarks have served only to increase fears that he is taking Cambodia back down the path of isolation. "I waver on the question as to whether he is mad," said one official.

Sources confirmed that agents have visited embassies to strengthen security. The *Cambodia Daily*, an English-language newspaper, last week reported briefings by French and American organisations, and said expatriates had been warned to avoid crowds, stock food and to register at their embassies.



Hun Sen: threat to arrest journalists

The paper's days may be numbered, as Mr Hun Sen singled out it and the Agence France-Presse news service for criticism. "The ministry has to immediately investigate those newspapers that publish against the truth," he said. "Why is it allowed to be based in Cambodia?"

Journalists caught "turning white to black", he said, faced punishment. "If there is a grenade explosion at the embassy, any who exaggerate the truth will be arrested." Turning to the two Western reporters present, from *The Times* and Australia's News Corporation, Mr Hun Sen demanded: "Those few pointed noses, what newspapers do they work for?"

Events this year, Mr Hun Sen's tenth in power, have shown his increasing discomfort with free speech. He has been linked with two grenade attacks — on a newspaper editor's house and a rally by his coalition's liberal Buddhist partners — and the sacking of a newspaper office. Mr Hun Sen had uncannily given a warning of violence days before each event.

Apart from the local press, Mr Hun Sen has been rattled by international reports depicting him as a dictator in waiting. Journalists have focused on heroin trafficking, illegal logging, rampant prostitution and kickbacks from Malaysian developers.

Prince Sirivudh, a leading light in the royalist party that partners Mr Hun Sen's People's Party in the Government, was one of a handful of politicians trying to stop the rot.

South Korean prosecutors reopen Chun bribe inquiry

FROM AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE IN SEOUL

SOUTH KOREAN prosecutors yesterday reopened an investigation into corruption scandals from the 1980s involving former President Chun Doo Hwan, already detained over his role in a 1979 military coup.

Prosecutors said they are also preparing to add corruption charges to the list when Mr Chun, who is on hunger striker in jail, is indicted this month for masterminding the coup. The former dictator was jailed on December 2 on charges of arresting senior army commanders in 1979 and of ordering soldiers to shoot pro-democracy demonstrators in the city of Kwangju.

For the past nine days, Mr Chun, 64, has been drinking only barley tea to protest his innocence. He has lost almost a stone but prison doctors check his health twice a day, officials said. Prosecutors said they had interviewed several business tycoons in the past week about Mr Chun's activities and confirmed that in 1988 he raised more than $390 million in a slush fund.

"Some conglomerate leaders have been investigated to see whether Chun has salted away any money and if so how much," said Choi Hwan, the head of the Seoul district prosecutors' office. News reports said Mr Chun collected between $6.5 million and $13 million at a time in return for allowing a conglomerate to take over an insolvent but potentially lucrative firm. For a licence to open a golf course, Mr Chun allegedly collected between $1.3 million and $6.5 million. Prosecutors said the businessmen involved would not be charged because of a five-year statute of limitations.

Mr Chun was succeeded in the presidency by his 1979 military coup colleague, Roh Tae Woo, who has been jailed after admitting to raising a $650 million slush fund while in office from 1988 to 1993. Prosecutors who are investigating bribes to Roh questioned Kim Yong Ho, the Seoul branch head of the US Lockheed Martin company, yesterday over South Korea's decision to buy American-made fighter jets.

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THE WORLD'S NO.1 IN THE CARPET TRADE...

Slapped cheek disease is a common childhood complaint

When ruddy cheeks are not healthy

IF A child whose complexion is normally pallid suddenly looks like a subject in a Mabel Lucy Atwell illustration, the cause may not be burgeoning good health but slapped cheek disease. Technically known as *Erythema infectiosum*, it is spread by a small round virus, Parvovirus B19, usually by coughs and sneezes but sometimes through transfusions.

The infection is normally caught in childhood and immunological tests on the blood of adults show that 60 per cent have had the disease. Although little known, slapped cheek disease is so common that it is also called Fifth Disease, as it is one of the five common infections of childhood.



DR THOMAS STUTTAFORD

The rash is fairly striking; the child, usually aged between two and 14, has bright red cheeks, just the type portrayed in Mabel Lucy Atwell's illustrations and in most late 19th-century child portraits. The rash may spread to the rest of the body a day or two after it has appeared on the cheek. There it appears as a fine blotchy rash — sometimes described as lacy — on the arms, legs and trunk but, unlike many other rashes, it only rarely involves the palms and soles.

The rash is also unusual in that for some months afterwards, sunlight, emotion, heat or fever will trigger a recurrence of the bright red cheeks. The disease is associated with a mild constitutional upset and usually a minimally raised temperature. The incubation period is four to 14 days and incidence of the disease is cyclical. For a couple of years it is seen only sporadically; thereafter for the next two years it usually occurs in epidemics.

A long review of Parvovirus B19 in the *British Medical Journal* emphasises that children who catch Parvovirus B19 have it easy. In adults it can cause very much more sinister troubles.

In adult infections, particularly if the patient is a woman, the virus can be a cause of acute arthritis. When submitting blood for analysis during the investigation of a case of joint pains, doctors rarely ask for immunological tests to disclose the presence of B19 infection. A recent study, also in the *BMJ*, showed that in 6.7 per cent of those in whom rheumatoid arthritis was suspected, the cause of the joint disease was Parvovirus B19.

In 90 per cent of patients with arthritis, the joint pains have disappeared within two months. In the others, it can be persistent and sometimes lasts for years. Other patients who catch B19 complain of numbness and tingling in their hands and feet, for it can be a cause of peripheral neuropathy.

SOME OTHER groups of adults are vulnerable to serious ill-effects if they catch B19.

As with the rubella (German measles) virus, so with the Parvovirus — both can cross the placenta and affect the unborn baby. About 10 per cent of foetuses in women who are infected by Parvovirus die as a result. Fortunately, if the baby survives, there is no evidence that it is any worse for the experience. Abortion is therefore not considered in these cases.

Patients who are immuno-compromised may develop severe anaemia and others who have some chronic form of anaemia may suffer a crisis during an infection.

The new way to stop your baby crying

Osteopathy is the new method of treating children for complaints from autism to crying. **Julia Llewellyn Smith** reports

RYAN, a blond three-year-old, is lying on his back, eyes closed in blissful peace. His mother sits beside him, holding his hand tightly. A woman sits behind him, massaging his head with light, almost imperceptible motions. Ryan is a regular visitor to the Osteopathic Centre for Children in London. He has severe cerebral palsy and on his first visit, aged 11 weeks, he was not expected to survive.

"When he was born he was officially dead and for a long time he was a very sick boy," explains his father. "His epilepsy was so severe that for a time he was having 100 fits a day."



Lady Mancroft and the Hon Arthur and Georgia Mancroft with Stuart Korth

Now Ryan's parents, who cannot be named because of a pending negligence suit, report that his progress has improved remarkably. "Before he was so drugged that he just lay there like a stuffed doll. Now it's like having a child. He's lively and demanding, he hasn't had a fit in 14 months and, although we were told he wouldn't feed, he's an excellent feeder," says his father. "We're talking now about sending him to school in the new year."

Once a week Ryan's family make a three-hour round trip to the OCC in Cavendish Square, a stone's throw from Oxford Street. The OCC receives 20,000 visits a year from 6,000 children, whose complaints range from severe handicaps to autism, glue ear, colic, asthma and simple irritability.

Adults have been consulting osteopaths for more than 30 years, and now it is becoming a popular way of treating babies and children too. Osteopaths believe that many illnesses begin when parts of the body's structure come out of alignment. With gentle manipulation, the balance can be restored and illness cured.

Stuart Korth, the founder of the OCC, has no hard data to support his claims, but is convinced that his treatments can revolutionise children's healthcare.

Mr Korth would like every baby to be checked by an osteopath immediately after birth. A baby goes through tremendously compressive forces during its journey down the uterine canal, and the 29 bones which make up the new-born skull can be pushed out of alignment, hindering the circulation of the "shock absorber" fluid, which bathes the brain and nerve centres. This can put pressure on parts of the brain and on the nerves which originate there and run to every part of the body. This, in turn, can lead to physical and nervous disorders in infancy such as eczema, bed wetting and hyperactivity.

"The health potential for a lifetime needs to be enhanced," Mr Korth says. "Adults can be helped by osteopathy to a modest degree, but generally there is much less you can do. A fretful baby may have spinal curvature as a result of the birth process. If this is left untreated, he will have a digestive or nervous disorder in later life. A pubescent girl who falls heavily and locks her pelvis will have gynaecological problems when she is older.

"Ryan had severe oxygen starvation at birth, but his nervous system is still developing and is highly malleable. By working on the spinal column and the skull, our manual technique helps to overcome the inertia in the parts of the system that have been damaged. It doesn't overcome the damage, but the system can function better."

The OCC, founded five years ago, is a charitable foundation, with parents being asked to make a minimum donation of £10 for each treatment. "A private practice in London would ask for about £50," says Mr Korth. "We turn away no one and always have a waiting list."

In the centre's communal consulting room babies are crying and toddlers crawling. One child is having its nappy changed. Jessica Barker, who is nearly three, is sitting on the floor studying *Thomas the Tank Engine*. A severe asthmatic, she had previously been admitted to hospital three times.

"Seeing the change over the last year is just incredible," says Jessica's mother, Victoria. "Before when she caught cold, it would inevitably go to her chest and she would end up taking Ventolin and steroids and staying in hospital for three or four days. Now she doesn't get into such an acute phase, she doesn't need drugs and she doesn't need to go to hospital. A quick visit here is all she needs. In time, I am absolutely convinced that this treatment will eradicate the asthma." Mr Korth explains that Jessica's breathing is being improved by manipulating the ribcage.

"I used to be very cynical, but at one point, I was at breaking point, totally exhausted," Victoria says. "Stuart put me on the couch and put his hands on my lower stomach. I felt this whirlwind as the tension and stress was lifted right out of the top of my head."

Anna Brown, two, visits the OCC once a fortnight for treatment of irritability. "She had a forceps delivery and I had quite a hard time," explains her mother, Julie. "If a long time elapses between visits she starts screaming, so now we try to catch it before it starts. After a visit here, she's a different child." Mr Korth claims that through gentle, mechanical movements Anna's compromised immune system can be improved and the lymphatics, fundamental to dealing with infection, strengthened.

It is difficult to find a doctor of conventional medicine who has anything to say against paediatric osteopathy. "I don't see any immediate objection," says Professor David Harvey of Queen Charlotte's and Chelsea hospitals. "What we want, as with all alternative and complementary medicine, is more research, both on the basis of the treatments and whether they work or not."

There is no regulatory body for osteopaths, although one should be established within the next year, but Mr Korth has not heard of any serious damage inflicted by an unqualified "therapist".

Despite the rave reviews, Mr Korth is anxious to stress that he is not offering a miracle cure. "There is a science to this. It is logical. It looks peculiar but it's not."

● *The Osteopathic Centre for Children, 19a Cavendish Square, London W1 (0171-495 1231)*

DAVID HARRISON/CONDE NAST



Cranial manipulation can "realign" the bones of a child's skull after the trauma of childbirth

Anglo-American research could ease joint pain

Anjana Ahuja reports on new hope for victims of arthritis

THE SUDDEN Siberian spell has deepened the misery for sufferers of rheumatoid arthritis, an inflammation of the joints which affects about one in 100 people. Although there is no cure there are many treatments, none ideal. Now two companies, one British and one American, have found a way to block the swelling which could offer better relief and, perhaps, a cure.

RA is the most severe form of arthritis. It is an autoimmune disorder, turning the immune system into the body's worst enemy. The body's defences attack healthy tissues, causing painful inflammation in finger, toe, ankle, knee and shoulder joints. This destructive process is triggered by an overproduction of tumour necrosis factor (TNF). This normally protective substance goes haywire, destroying the tissue in joints.

In broadly similar, but separate, research by Immunex, an American biotechnology company, and British Biotech in Oxford, TNF is inhibited. The American trials, conducted with the University of Alabama, showed that two thirds of patients injected with high doses of this inhibitor enjoyed pain relief. Swelling was reduced in 58 per cent of cases. Final clinical trials will begin next year and the company predicts a drug within two years.

Glaxo Wellcome is developing the British Biotech version, and will start clinical trials next year. Its drug, which can be taken as a pill, is a twin-action inhibitor which reduces pain and swelling *and* slows down the disease. This is because the compound which British Biotech has patented can block not only TNF but also matrix metalloproteinase, thought to be responsible for breaking down joint tissue. The compound thus has the potential to stop the disease in its tracks.

Success for Immunex and British Biotech would mean a significant improvement on existing treatments and therapies. Steroids used to be administered for pain relief but have obvious drawbacks. Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs) can cause peptic ulcers. Existing anti-rheumatic drugs can slow down the progress of the disease but none has shown the capability of stamping it out completely.

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IRRITABLE BOWEL SYNDROME

The Central Middlesex Hospital NHS Trust has set up the IBS Appeal to fund a research programme to investigate the causes of Irritable Bowel Syndrome and to develop cures.
As part of its fund raising activities, the Appeal publishes the quarterly IBS Bulletin. This reports on the progress of the research and provides advice on the management of various aspects of IBS.

In the Christmas issue, the researchers discuss:

- *over-eating and drinking,*
- *foreign travel for IBS sufferers,*
- *abdominal pain in IBS,*
- *three case histories on how IBS pain has been successfully treated,*
- *new treatment for the hypersensitive gut,*
- *questions & answers and a review of a recent video on IBS.*

An annual subscription to the IBS Bulletin is £12 including p&p.
Alternatively, the Christmas issue only, due to be published by mid December, is £3.

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The IBS Bulletin is published by the IBS Appeal, Registered Charity No. 295485

INSIDE SECTION 2

Glories of the hills: how the landscape of northern England will be transformed by a year of visual art commissions

هكذا من الأصل

What Barbie tells us about ourselves

However embarrassed we are by Barbie, little girls like dolls and always will. So is there really any point in banning her from the Christmas stocking?



REX

Doll-sized fashion victim: liberal-minded parents everywhere can only apologise in silence and wonder where they went wrong when their daughters discover Barbie

ON FRIDAY, the Editor of *The Times* gave not exactly a call to arms but rather to the barricades. Barbie should be banned. Death to Barbies everywhere.

The editorial was eloquent on the perniciousness of this iconic doll, with its sinister emphasis on the etiolated figure and its cramping insistence on an insidious and unrealistic model of feminine perfection. Why indeed should we want such a repellent creation to fall into the hands of our daughters?

The thing is, M'lud, it isn't quite like that. Those of us who have in our fierier and more militant youth fought against the sexist stereotyping and brainwashing we saw enshrined in those too-too pretty, pointy-bosomed, clothes-mad dolls, don't need persuading that Barbie is, to say the least, an undesirable influence. But it is not we, the parents, who foist these idealised and idolised bimbos on our children. There is a whole, terrifying freemasonry of little girls out there demanding Barbie dolls from parents who are appalled at the request and reluctant to accede to it.

Few people become parents without realising that there is more to sex differences than mere conditioning. Perhaps this came as no surprise to earlier generations, whose idea of civilised society was that girls were girls and boys were boys, and that's how they should stay. But to those in their thirties and forties, it was an accepted tenet of their youth that sex roles were as defined by politics as by nature, if not, indeed, more.

But children have a way of confounding many of our deeper-seated beliefs: suddenly we have a girl who refuses ever to wear trousers, and insists not only on dresses, but that they be pink and with bows; or a boy who knows the names of cars before he can say his own and has a whole arsenal of imagined weapons.

I cannot pronounce on the innate differences between the sexes from first-hand, intimate observation of the full gender range — and would anyway not presume to. Although it is tempting to view one's own children as representative specimens, there is certainly more to character formation than the sex genes. That much is obvious. But those sex genes are not negligible either: they make their presence felt too much to be ignored.

So perhaps all of us react too strongly in the opposite direction. We feel ourselves impotent to stop the full force of nature, and begin to question why we should even try.

I did not give my daughter a doll, and didn't want her to be fed with all that girlie stuff, but when she was given one for her first birthday she fell on it with such passion and rapture that I felt ashamed of my earlier churlishness. Now, as she approaches two, she is ferociously attached to any doll that comes her way. "My baby, my baby," she swoons. A miniature pram seems to be a universal early feminine object of desire. I look around at the daughters of all my friends, and see them behaving in exactly the same way.



NIGELLA LAWSON

None of my friends are girlie types themselves: they mouth silent sorries to me as their daughters enthuse about the joys of Barbie and Sindy looking stricken and mournful at their renegade, letting-the-side-down offspring.

And so we tend, in the words of the old song, to swing like a pendulum do: we assure ourselves it is all in the genes: it is nature, not conditioning. But I wonder if we are not simply denying our influence in this. I don't say that a girl-child wanting a doll or a boy-child wanting a fire engine are either good or bad things. Although, as long as we recognise what is going on, stereotype may — up to a point — have its uses. Bruno Bettelheim pointed out the importance of fairy-stories in *The Uses of Enchantment*, and it may be no less the case that certain toys, which we may find alarming in the way they reinforce gender-types, have an important role for children. It doesn't mean that they or we succumb long-term to the propaganda.

It is not that there are no differences, but maybe we are too quick sometimes to locate and recognise certain of them. Often it is our response, as parents, that makes them more salient, more fixed than they would be.

Perhaps it is the case, too, that as the roles of the sexes have become less fixed in society we work out some of our confusion through our children. I notice particularly that women who have always made a point of ridiculing the old macho image of men tend to take a covert pleasure in the rowdy maleness of their sons, their delight not voiced but evident and encouraging all the same. Perhaps, too, those daughters in pink of nonsense, resolutely undecorated women are acting out their mothers' fantasies of an illicit alter-ego. If that seems to be putting it too strongly, I think it is nevertheless true that, even as we condemn it, we sometimes allow our children to express those parts we refuse to recognise in ourselves.

More bull than beef

AT THE weekend I was watching a rerun of *Educating Rita* on TV. At one stage, Julie Walters's Rita talks, as she lights up, about everyone packing up smoking because they're frightened of cancer. "Cowards," she sneers.

It seems to me that is exactly the attitude being taken towards those who have decided to give up beef: at best it's sissy, at worst a symptom of craven, self-obsessed hypochondria. But of course, the BSE issue is not about beef: it is 100 per cent pure, ground politics.

"Mad cow" disease, or its possible human counterpart, is what the crisis would appear to be about, but what it is really about is trust. Our disillusionment with politics, our growing cynical belief that politicians have *their* interests, not ours, at heart, that the Government is thigh-high in sleaze is what motivates the anti-beef consumer. Those who are frightened to eat beef are scared because they no longer feel they can trust their Government.

True, the particular nature of this fear taps into a vulnerable spot. The growing pressure of vegetarianism and the post-religious emphasis on the great god, Nature, reinforce the anxiety about potentially infected meat. The seeds have already been sown to equate flesh with poison. Indeed, it was an act against nature to feed sheep's corpses to cows. But only in these times would there be such a consensus that this unnatural act deserved an almost biblical punishment.

It is strange, though. The Tories have always avowedly been the party of choice; but if we choose not to eat beef then suddenly choice is not so good after all. We are not exercising a right; we are subversively perpetuating a great wrong.

'I know what it is to throw out the garbage'

Former Ralph Lauren shirt salesman **Giles Coren** catches up with his old boss, the doyen of design



Giles Coren meets Ralph Lauren for the second time

The first time I met Ralph Lauren I was not allowed to talk to him. I was permitted to shake his hand, to say good morning, and then to go about my business. I was not allowed to initiate conversation. He had a lot of hands to shake. He was a very busy man.

And so was I. For nine hours a day, six days a week I folded shirts, pinned them, stacked them and sold them, in the Polo Ralph Lauren boutique in Paris. It was whispered that my lovingly tended shirt wall turned over $2 million a year. But $2 million represents only two thousandths of a per cent of Mr Lauren's $4 billion dollar business. Enough for a handshake; not enough for a chat about the weather.

Ralph, as he is respectfully known, is a messianic figure in his stores. The history of his genius is a constant topic of conversation: "You know, Ralph not only introduced the wide tie in 1967, but he invented the pleated tie-knot too." We were told what to wear for the day, so that no two salesmen would be dressed the same (down to socks and underpants, only the purest Polo is acceptable). His itinerary was choreographed like a papal walkabout.

On the famous morning, as his little shadow rounded the corner of the roughwear department (he stands only 5ft 6in in his cowboy boots), I turned from the plaid, zip-fronted, brushed canvas overshirt I had been pretending to fold for the past three hours, and shook his hand.

Thus, I was rather saddened last Thursday, at a party given in his honour at the Royal Academy in London, when he did not wave across the room at me and come striding across to ask how I was. Perhaps he was distracted by Patsy Kensit. But I bet she never sold a shirt for him. Nor did Mariella Frostrup or Viscount Linley but they all got the big "Hello".

I probably looked too shabby, despite being clad in Polo head-to-toe. But then I always am, and have been ever since Paris. I have wardrobes full of the stuff — given to me as uniform. I wash my car with $100 sea island cotton boxershorts, worn through at the crotch, and the cat sleeps on worn-out $1,000 cashmere sweaters. But I do not have any other clothes, and the years have taken their toll on my Ralph wardrobe. Nursing a glass of champagne at the Royal Academy, in my virgin merino wool Polo silhouette number 3 weekend jacket, and bottle green pants, I looked less congruous than Michael Foot at the Cenotaph. And I failed to talk to him again.

When I met him for an interview after long preliminaries with press attachés, he recognised only my tie.

With his collection of sports cars and country homes, he is one of the few men who actually lives the life his customers dress for. It is a long way from his Jewish upbringing in the Bronx, as Ralph Lifshitz (yes, really).

"My life is very normal though," he insists. "I work hard all week, and I have a wife and children, and I know what it is to throw out the garbage. So I never feel out of touch with reality.

"I was always a cool guy, even back in the Bronx. Everyone was wearing leather jackets, but I used to wear tennis sweaters and chinos. I was an athlete and a regular guy — I wasn't gay. But I was an individual, and I had the confidence to wear what I wanted to wear." In Lauren's own person rests his entire empire — the clothes, the lifestyle, the name, the tan — all is created in his own image, and to say too much about anything risks shattering a myth and a sales graph.

So, he will not be drawn on whether, as the son of Russian Jewish emigrés, he has any resentment for the establishment Wasps who inspired his clothes. "I would not want to be one of them," he admits. "I am glad I have worked for what I have, and earned the right to enjoy myself."

This is all part of the regular guy thing — the insistence that his clothes are "not about fashion, but about life". Even a brain tumour is grist to that particular mill. "It happened at the same time as I was on the cover of *Time* — an incredible feat — and no one knew about it but me. Lying in the hospital, I realised that no matter how successful you are, you are always alone."

Everything is unreal. "I have lived through these unreal moments, through being applauded on the catwalk, and through thinking I was going to die, and through starting with nothing and building up a $4 billion business. It is unreal at every level."

And unreality is exactly what I was selling in Paris. Every hacking jacket I sold to a man who had never seen a grouse, every pair of jodhpurs to a woman who had never touched a horse, and the jeans specially "antiqued" to look as if you lived on a ranch. Like Ralph, I was selling a life that didn't exist.

I told him, finally, about our little Paris rendezvous. A worried frown creased the billion-dollar tan. "Did you like me?" he asked. And for a moment, I actually believed he cared.

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We deserve better from France

John Redwood rings the bell a third time against monetary union

The Bellman in *The Hunting of the Snark* says: "What I tell you three times is true." Europe has been warned three times about the dangers of a single currency.

When the Deutschmark and the Ostmark were prematurely brought together, hundreds of thousands in the East lost their jobs. Taxes shot up in the West to subsidise their neighbours, struggling with an unrealistic and unchangeable exchange rate.

When the European currencies were together in the narrow bands of the exchange-rate mechanism, most countries had to put their interest rates up to damaging levels, and even so were forced into devaluation. And now, France soldiering on in the wide band, has high unemployment and a large deficit. Trying to meet the government borrowing condition for monetary union has precipitated a major strike and civil unrest.

Three times we have been warned that monetary union is bad for jobs, bad for economies and bad for Western European governments. Yet still there are those who want a European banker "engaged at enormous expense" to have "the whole of their cash in his care" — forgetting how he collapsed and was abandoned by the Bellman. East Germany was a special case, they say. Its industry was so poor that there was bound to be mass unemployment. But East Germany could only merge with West Germany because it is one country. Grumble they might, but West Germans accepted that it was their problem and that they had to pay up to help. It would be different in a currency union between separate countries.

> Major was chided for his pragmatic doubts

Britain fell out of the ERM, some say, because we went in at too high a rate. Why then did most of the others also fall out, or have to devalue? What was the right rate? When we started, 3 marks to the pound was too low a rate. When we came out, we settled down at 2.5 marks. Now we are at 2.2, though we have stayed in line with the dollar in recent months, at around $1.5. There is no right rate if economies behave differently. Keeping currencies together can destabilise everything else.

Now we are told that France is only doing what we did some years ago. "Thatcherites" are expected to support the beleaguered French Prime Minister. History is being distorted. Margaret Thatcher never took a Beeching axe to the railways: she gave them more subsidy. She never even ruffled the index-linked pensions of the public sector. She believed that government must honour its word. She presided over a big increase in welfare. The first time she faced a threatening miners' strike, she bought them off. The second time she saw they were out to assert their power over the elected Government, and she was ready.

I would feel more like supporting the French Prime Minister if France felt more like supporting Britain. John Major tried hard to win M Chirac over to our cause in his recent meeting. He faced down the hostile response of British and Commonwealth opinion to defend M Chirac's insensitive decision to test nuclear weapons. He deserved more thanks than a hectoring joint letter from Germany and France saying they will press on with monetary union, and containing a swipe at British pragmatism for daring to question the policy. There is no point in our supporting the French if they take their inspiration or even their instructions from Berlin. Nor is there a lot of point in supporting a Prime Minister who has not prepared properly for the fight, and has now conceded the first EU demand.

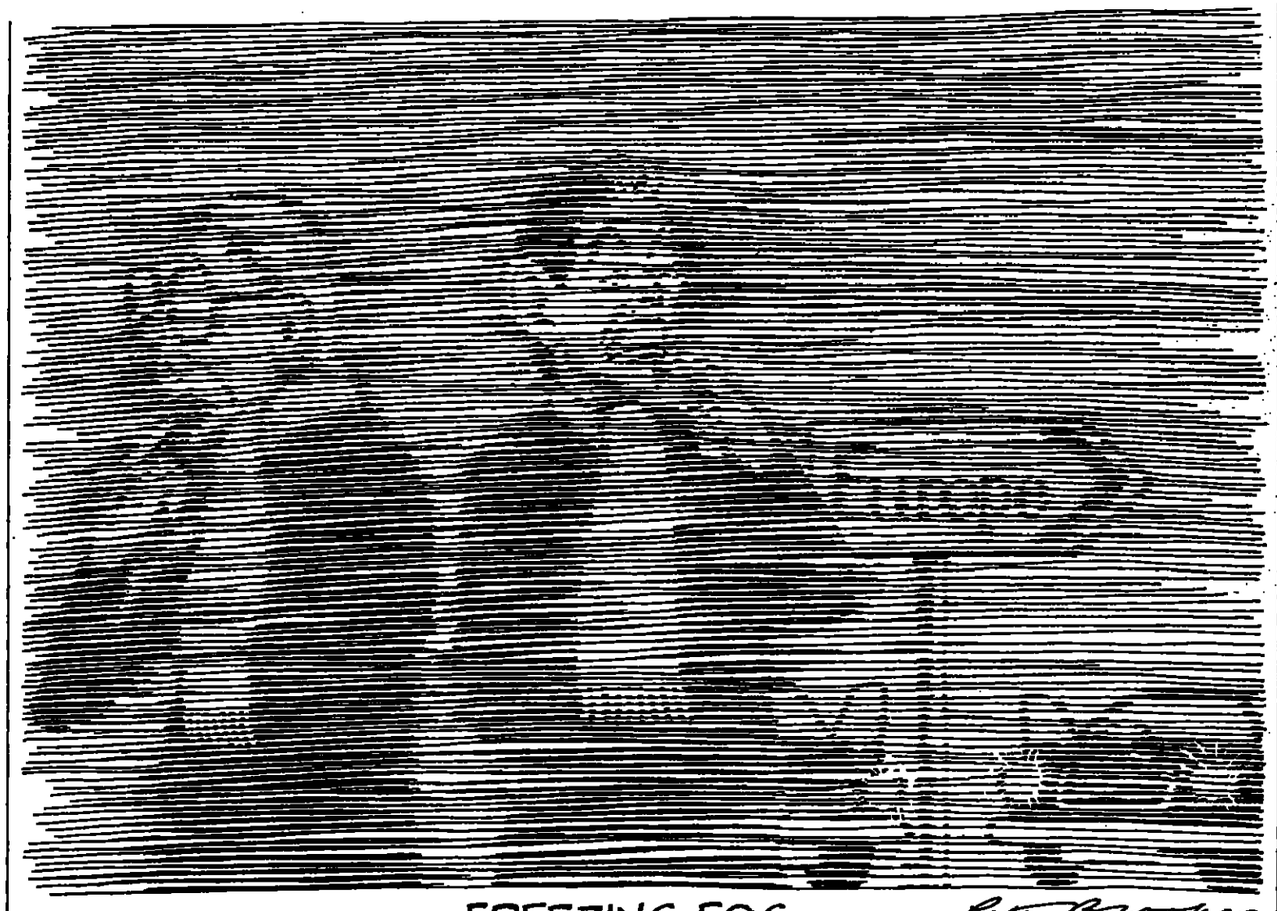
A much more productive piece of diplomacy was John Major's visit to Italy. Many countries in the EU now know they will not be allowed to join a single currency, or doubt its wisdom. Italy, Greece, Portugal and Spain realise the game is up for them. The Danes remember the scepticism shown by their referendum, and would be cautious of more commitment. Sweden is openly questioning the Maastricht criteria and timetable. Belgium will tell itself that it is a special case, but it cannot possibly repay more than half its national debt in the next three years, and so cannot be eligible. John Major is right to question the wisdom of a plan which will at best split the EU in two.

At Madrid, Britain has a unique opportunity to change the EU. Britain should say firmly that there can be no single currency under Maastricht. No country is going to meet the currency criterion, let alone the deficit, interest-rate and inflation criteria. The EU should welcome this as good news. It should turn to promoting business and jobs. If Germany cares about Europe, it will cut its interest rates to relieve the pressures on France.

Most businesses in Britain serve a local or national market. For them a single currency has costs but no benefits. And the principal foreign exchange commission costs for big business are into and out of dollars — which would remain. Meanwhile, every retailer would need tills to handle the new currency alongside the old, and every cash dispenser, ticket and vending machine would have to be changed.

At home, John Major should reassure people by insisting that Britain will not enter a single currency without a referendum. Tony Blair should be urged to agree to this. The Prime Minister should go further by ruling it out during the lifetime of the next Parliament. Europe is not ready for it. It would cost business dear for no good reason. It is time to save Europe from itself. For the single currency is a Boojum, you see.

The author's A Single European Currency *is published today.*



Barbarians at the gate

Are schools to be places of hope and inspiration, or slums of despair?

Philip Lawrence died a hero's death, doing his duty to his pupils. Somewhere on the far side of shock and misery, that fact may one day help them, and eventually help his own children too. For the rest of us, it does one salutary thing: it reminds us of what a school is for.

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle knew. In the adventure of "The Naval Treaty", Dr Watson sits with his friend as the Portsmouth train goes through Clapham, looking with distaste at the "sordid enough view". Holmes has seen more. He says: "Look at those big, isolated clumps of buildings rising up above the slates, like brick islands in a lead-coloured sea."

"The board-schools?" says Watson.

"Lighthouses, my boy! Beacons of the future! Capsules with hundreds of bright little seeds in each, out of which will spring the wiser, better England of the future."

Holmes says no more, but the image stands: a message from 1894 to 1995 about what a state school must be. A beacon, a lighthouse, an eminence.

In Maida Vale, with the barbarians at the gate, Philip Lawrence would probably have agreed. His last interview suggests a man who kept his lamp well trimmed. He had a confiscated Ninja weapon in his desk drawer; he talked of "not tolerating anti-social behaviour"; after "seven or eight last chances", he expelled. He had known the greener islands and calmer seas of the independent sector, and observed that whereas there "the teacher would literally go to sleep and still all the pupils would get starred As", at an inner-city comprehensive "virtually *anything* that pupils achieve is the result of the work of the teachers and supporting staff". He knew his job, and by all accounts, did it.

This is too sombre a moment for political sniping: no need anyway, since both main parties now appear committed to virtually identical education policies. But it should be said that in the past few decades the idea of a school as beacon and lighthouse has been disastrously eroded. Schools are betrayed both by those who see them as soft, unjudging, refuges of mere "caring", and those who judge them as businesses. Above all, they are betrayed by those who do not respect their unique position in society. We have let the status of teachers plummet: from one direction they have been routinely insulted, patronised and blamed by government; from the other (perhaps not quite coincidentally) they have been physically assaulted by pupils and parents.

As for head teachers, this lack of respect makes it hard for them to show firm leadership. Before the disaster at the gate of St George's, the last thing we read on the subject was a spat between the party leaders about which had the most hawkish approach to retraining, "assessing" and sacking heads. Governors are becoming so trigger-happy that in June the general secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers, David Hart, begged them to stop meddling. Some heads have to telephone their governors every Monday to clear the school's programme for the week, and, said Mr Hart, "there are governing bodies which think that the easy answer to a school's problems is to change the head, just as the easy answer to pulling a football team up the league is to change the manager".

Libby Purves

In that last comparison lies the heart of the problem. We are encouraged to think of schools not as beacons but as businesses, subject to market forces and consumer choice. There are glossy brochures, paid marketeers and fashionable expressions such as "delivering the national curriculum": as if the thing could be wrapped in clingfilm and left on the doorstep. Senior teachers are told to think of themselves as "line managers"; old hands are made redundant and college-leavers are recruited for the avowed purpose of "maximising salary resources" — because young teachers are cheaper. I went to a gathering of middle-school heads once, and found that their morning session had consisted of visits to local factories. "Good!" I thought. "Checking out pupils' future employers!" But not a bit of it: they were being asked to learn "management skills" from the local ironworks.

I protested that I did not want to hand my children over to a red-hot management team abuzz with business-school theory — time enough for that when the poor lambs join the BBC. I want them to be led and inspired. I want the kind of teachers who suddenly drop a subject period to hold forth about Sparta, or Salman Rushdie, or the *Galileo* mission; the kind of head who would rather fall behind with the paperwork than miss a chance to get out in the playground and sort out some real problems. Above all, I want recognition that the standards of business and industry do not and never will apply to schools. A school — a state school, anyway — cannot write off losses or dump unreliable suppliers. Those losses are children, and those faulty suppliers are parents. Many head teachers must dream sometimes of retooling the assembly line with a load of shiny new parts; but they wake to the knowledge that the sullen, spotty, aggressive, emotionally damaged nuts and bolts of their job will never go away.

Heads must be strong leaders: forceful, sometimes ruthless, visionary, morally certain yet humorous and affectionate towards human diversity. It is a tall order. And just as doctors should not be regarded as plumbers, head teachers should not be treated like football managers. More is asked of them, so more is owed to them. Again, no party politics: I fully acknowledge the complacent shambles the last Labour administration permitted in schools and colleges of education. But it is a fact that the Conservative Government has been demoralisingly high-handed with the teaching profession. I see that the National Curriculum Council has finally apologised to primary heads for the chaos that heralded the curriculum's beginnings, when schools — my own children's included — were driven to distraction by overambitious instructions. The staffroom used to look as if leaflets had been dumped in it by a JCB, and reading them would have taken up the entire school week had the teachers foolishly attempted it.

The first tests for 7-year-olds are now acknowledged to have been absurd: my daughter took them, and I saw the off-duty effort that her teacher gave to making sure that the misery fell on her and not the children. But nobody apologised for that, nor for the fact that the reading lists were released to the press before the schools, so that the books sold out; nor the shambles of the first 14-plus tests, in which teachers spent hours ticking boxes and one of their charges memorably complained to me that in Technology "You're so worried about ticking off what skills you've learnt that you forget the skill".

These mistakes are being rectified, but the spirit in which they were made still hovers. Experiments were imposed on schools: not demonstrably bad schools, but all of them. The message was that they were not fit for the job and that government knew better. The constant political stress on bad teachers has been so strong as to seem like a lingering revenge for the strikes of the 1980s. Under Gillian Shephard's comparatively emollient rule, it is hard to remember how rude Kenneth Clarke used to be as Education Secretary, or the day when John Major himself bayed for pedagogic blood with the words "The trendy teachers have had their say, and had their day!" This lack of respect has filtered through to parents who — as teachers' unions point out over Philip Lawrence's death — are increasingly violent and abusive.

It is one of the great sadnesses of the business that those unions are now demanding "trained security staff" in schools, and that one of the first calls after the disaster was for closed-circuit video cameras. The Government has said that these may be applied for. But video surveillance involves expensive staff to watch the screens; it also presupposes that the only deterrent to violence inside schools is the knowledge that Big Brother is watching. I do not believe it is, and I do not think that Mr Lawrence believed it either.

By all means revise the law about knives; and until society is quieter, let the most beleaguered schools have their cameras and guards. But give them something else too: take them out of party politics, and grant a general recognition that any half-way decent inner-city school is a lighthouse, a beacon: something to revere.

Scapegoat of Smith Square

Central Office is a mess, says **Edward Heathcoat-Amory**

He coped with Peter Brooke's paternalism, Kenneth Baker's self-obsession, Chris Patten's intellectual self-assurance, Norman Fowler's indecision and Jeremy Hanley's enthusiastic incompetence. But four months of Brian Mawhinney have finally driven him out. Last month, almost unnoticed, John Gardiner, private secretary to five Conservative Party chairmen, sought political asylum at the British Field Sports Society.

This should have triggered warning bells. Mr Gardiner was a Central Office survivor, one of the semi-permanent staff who outlast changes at the top because they are the guardians of the institution's folk memory. His departure signalled the dramatic changes currently being made at Tory headquarters by its ambitious new party chairman.

The extent of Dr Mawhinney's ambitions only became public knowledge last week, when an attempt by his press office to take the political initiative badly backfired. It leaked a controversial speech which it claimed the Lord Chancellor was due to deliver. But Lord Mackay of Clashfern chose to humiliate Mawhinney publicly by publishing a letter repudiating the views attributed to him. The row illuminated Mawhinney's determination to make the Government dance to the party's tune in the run-up to the election.

Dr Mawhinney, in common with the Prime Minister, knows that presentation, as much as tax cuts, is the key to the next election. Afraid to tackle real issues for fear of widening divisions within the party, the Tories must rely on slick delivery of the few policies on which they can agree. So Mawhinney has quietly pushed through a wide-ranging reform of the Smith Square machine, with the intention of taking a firm grip on policy presentation, and of securing his own political future.

Central Office has been "reformed" before. Kenneth Baker ran up a seven-figure overdraft for changing the carpets. Norman Fowler's much-trumpeted restructuring of the party machine in 1993 was little more than a cosmetic post-election retrenchment. But Mawhinney's determination to remake Central Office in his own image has initiated the most radical shake-up for many years.

The most high-profile departure so far has been the gentlemanly Hugh Colver, communications director, whose midnight flit amid a blaze of unwelcome publicity should allow Mawhinney to appoint a more brutally effective successor. The unrelated exit of Andrew Lansley, head of research, has given Mawhinney the opportunity to bring in Danny Finkelstein, the Majorite former director of the Social Market Foundation, who enjoys more influence with No 10 than his right-wing predecessor.

Mawhinney has gone on to reorganise the press office. Tim Collins, *Star Trek* enthusiast and successful veteran of Major's battle bus during the 1992 election, has become a "media adviser". Vanessa Ford, the chief press officer, has moved to run Mawhinney's private office, and journalists from *The Times* and *The Sun* have been recruited to improve Central Office's ability to spin stories.

Dr Mawhinney has also brought in a series of young MPs, including his PPS, the influential right-winger Alan Duncan, to reinforce his grip on the institution. Mr Duncan has already been linked with an attempt to identify alleged instances of bias by the Speaker, Betty Boothroyd. Finally, the shake-up appears to have been the key factor in persuading Paul Judge, the multi-millionaire chief executive, to leave abruptly. However, no heavyweight has been found to be the new communications director. Many of the new team are inexperienced, and Labour's publicists are exploiting this to the full.

Mawhinney has been obliged by the Prime Minister to share the presentation brief with Michael Heseltine, Deputy Prime Minister and enthusiastic tree planter. With his eye on a place in the history books, Heseltine makes an awkward partner on this bed of nails.

But Mawhinney has greater difficulties with other Cabinet members. Many of those who are not busy lining up directorships for their retirement are jockeying to replace a defeated John Major. Finding ministers for political talk-shows is a growing problem for Tory media schedulers.

The last two chairmen, Fowler and Hanley, did not attempt to dictate policy to ministers. Mawhinney hopes to change that. But he has few personal friendships on which to draw, and cannot rely on the support of his closest ally, the lame-duck Prime Minister.

Mawhinney's Smith Square is becoming less right-wing, more professional, more determined to succeed at the election, and may well be far more influential in the event of a Conservative defeat. But without support from Cabinet heavyweights, the party chairman's attempts to reform Central Office will have no effect on the electoral fortunes of the Government. For all his ruthlessness, Dr Mawhinney looks likely to become the scapegoat for an election defeat.

The author worked at Central Office until recently.

In the air

MOHAMED AL FAYED, the owner of Harrods and irritant of select Conservative MPs, is suing the Aberdonian firm of architects which restored his Highland castle more than three years ago.

The Swiss-registered holding company of his Balnagowan estate is demanding £500,000 damages for alleged breach of contract and negligence, involving repairs to the roof and the external fabric of the 600 year old Balnagown Castle.

The Castle, near Tain in Easter Ross, is the former seat of the Clan Ross and was bought by Al Fayed in 1972. Since then, he has extended the original 60-acre estate to over 40,000 acres, spending more than £20 million on castle and estate.

The Egyptian tycoon has his own kilt and pipers, and has assumed the mantle of a Scottish laird, although he has banned commercial shooting on the estate. Recently, he has the castle "reharled" in natural sandstone, giving it a fetching pink hue.

A statement for Al Fayed issued yesterday from his Glasgow solicitors, McClure, Naismith, Anderson and Gardiner, confirmed that legal proceedings against the William Cowie Partnership and its two partners, William G. Cowie and Harry McNab, have begun at Edinburgh's Court of Session.

But the Cowie Partnership is preparing to fight its corner. "The allegations are entirely rejected," said a spokesman. "The architects fully performed their obligations, and will defend this action strenuously."


King of the castle

● *Stephen Hawking has been back at his bestseller,* A Brief History of Time, *to add another chapter and some illustrations. The addition, entitled "Worm Holes and Time Travels", has nothing to do with terrestrial beings beloved of gardeners.*

Scotch myths

ETIQUETTE posed some ticklish problems at a recent exhibition of works by Prince Henry of Hesse at the Fine Art Society in London. European royal families packed the rooms, and foremost among their members was a British contingent consisting of the Princesses Margaret, Alexandra and Michael of Kent.

There was trouble, however, over Princess Margaret's preferred tipple which is Famous Grouse (two cubes of ice and a dash of Highland Spring). One of her henchmen had demanded that it should be made readily available.

The Scottish head of the Fine Art Society, Andrew McIntosh Patrick, was faced with a dilemma, since his boss runs Bells whisky and forbids any other on the premises. So which brand did they eventually sup? "I'd prefer to allow that to remain a mystery," said McIntosh guardedly.

● *Scrabble fans do it under water at Portsmouth University, where members of the subaqua club held the world's first 24-hour tournament in aid of charity at their local pool. The Scrabble board had to be laminated, and the letters were weighted with lead.*

Clowns too?

DONS IN OXFORD say they're mesmerised. A professional juggler from a circus in Vermont has been admitted as a Rhodes Scholar. Tobias Ayer, 20, was among 32 Americans who learned at the weekend that they had been awarded the prestigious two-year scholarships. None of the others had circus experience.

Ayer, a senior at Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, Massachusetts, learned to juggle from a book, and became good enough to perform for a circus in his hometown of Burlington, Vermont. At Oxford, he'll be juggling with linguistics.

Mal-lined

FUR HAS BEEN flying at Cambridge after the University Council's proposal to introduce a degree of Bachelor of Theology for Ministry. Trouble has centred around the suggested design of a gown for holders of the degree.

One graduate, John Horton, is particularly excercised and has made his views clear to the Senate. "The proposed hood with black fur leaves something to be desired. It breaks the pattern of the Cambridge bachelors' hoods, and the use of black fur is clearly anomalous." A compromise has been reached, and white fur is to be used, with the dove-grey silk of the Divinity department.



Duchess oblige

ALTHOUGH Lavinia, Duchess of Norfolk, died on Sunday, there are hopes in sporting circles that the tradition she fostered for many years will not die with her. For many years, visiting touring Test sides have played the traditional opener against the Duchess's own XI in Arundel at the beginning of the season.

The Earl of Carnarvon, who hosts similar matches at Highclere, is concerned to see the tradition flourish. "Here at Highclere, as well as in Arundel, we stage at least ten matches a year. I do hope that the tradition will be be maintained as it should."

P·H·S

ROLE OF HONOUR

Philip Lawrence's legacy is the way he ran his school

The stab wound which killed Philip Lawrence on Friday continues to exact its bitter toll. The Prime Minister was said yesterday to be "appalled and shocked" by the murder; he, Michael Howard and Gillian Shephard are still considering ways of preventing a similar tragedy in the future. At Mr Lawrence's school, St George's Roman Catholic Comprehensive, Cardinal Basil Hume conducted Mass and told children that God would tell their murdered headmaster that he was a "good man". Pupils were guided through a "special programme" to help them to cope with the shock of grief.

Since Mr Lawrence's death all decent people have asked what can be done to stop such barbarity. As we said yesterday, there is clearly scope for some revision to the law governing the possession of knives. As in Scotland, the burden of proof ought to lie with the defendant to prove he was carrying a blade for legitimate reasons.

Necessary as it is, such regulation would not address the brutal street culture which led to the stabbing of this decent man. To say as much is not a counsel of despair. Mr Lawrence's work at St George's was proof of how much can be achieved by a committed leader who has a clear vision of his role. He confronted the group of older pupils who were running the school; he expelled those who were consistently antisocial; he told children that "there is a difference between right and wrong. There is no relativist position." The spirit of rigour and discipline he promoted helped to improve the school's examination results by 16 per cent this year. Although Mr Lawrence will be remembered for the dreadful manner of his death, his true memorial will be the honour of the school he moulded.

The decline of the stable nuclear family, of the old-fashioned neighbourhood and of the Church's parochial structure has imposed a heavy burden upon schools as civic institutions where children are drilled in the basic values of citizenship. Sadly, this shift of responsibility began at the worst possible moment, when comprehensive schools were themselves embracing a progressive ideology completely unsuited to this social task. Too often in recent decades, children have been taught in the classroom that their own impulses are as valid as the moral framework that society tries to impose upon them. Basic concepts such as right, wrong, good and evil have been pushed to the margins of the curriculum.

There are encouraging signs that the tide is turning. There have always been excellent disciplinarian heads such as Mr Lawrence. Now they are being actively encouraged by the delegation of power to schools and the increasing influence of parents. For many years, schools were branch offices of a town hall education system. Now they are once again becoming focuses of community loyalty, responsive to the needs of the people they serve and free to pursue special interests within the limits of the law. It is increasingly possible for ambitious heads to make a difference.

This is a daunting challenge. A head teacher cannot possibly be expected to fulfil the role of educator, priest, parent and policeman — although this is precisely what Mr Lawrence seems to have done. However successful he or she is in reforming a school and inculcating basic morality in its pupils, what happens outside its walls cannot be controlled from within: increasingly so, if the number of children permanently excluded continues to rise as it has in the last few years. With inspired leadership, schools can work wonders. But they cannot solve all the social problems of their communities. If the death of Mr Lawrence encourages local agencies of all kinds to confront this reality and co-operate accordingly, it will not have been entirely in vain.

SPIN WIMPS

Why not apply to communicate the Conservative message?

The Tories are in a spin. For years they were used to effortless superiority over Labour in the propaganda game; for at least the past 12 months they have been regularly bowled by their opponents. "Unfair!" they cry, "Not out!". The truth is that the other team has become more skilled at political googlies. Bleating in an unsporting manner will not help the Conservative Party one bit.

On Sunday Michael Heseltine managed to declare with a straight face that "the present standards of media manipulation have never been seen in this country before". They might not have been seen from the Labour Party for some time; they have often been delivered by the Conservatives, generally by Conservative spokesmen, both official and unofficial, who were proud of their party and prepared to spend time and money promoting its strengths.

All democratic parties need experts in putting their message across: it is nothing to be ashamed of. All democracies require independent journalists to clear a path through the propaganda that is produced: Britain has many such hardworking men and women. But all sides also need to keep their skills honed if they are to prosper. As Hugh Colver, the recently departed director of communications at Conservative Central Office, put it with brutal honesty: "We continue to manage to fall on banana skins and machinegun ourselves in the foot all too often," thereby aiming a few more rounds of ammunition at the party's toes.

Last week Central Office briefed *The Daily Telegraph* that Lord Mackay was set to attack the judiciary in a Guildhall speech. Since the dinner had already taken place, and the Lord Chancellor had restricted himself to proposing the toast, this mix-up could hardly have been better for Labour. John Prescott duly jousted with Mr Heseltine over the issue yesterday. But what did the Deputy Prime Minister expect? To suggest, as he did, that Labour was behind the bad publicity for the incident seems — to purloin a phrase — to be a symptom of the advanced stages of paranoia. The story told itself, with no need for any opposition spin.

The Conservatives must somehow counter the deftness which Labour is displaying these days. Tony Blair immediately changed his speech on Friday to capitalise upon Central Office's mistake. Government ministers, frequently hampered by the demands of office, are leaden-footed in comparison. And their party is still without a communications director of the stature it requires.

Who, they lament, would be prepared to take such a job? Are not the skills of an alchemist needed to turn their base message into gold? The answer is no. The Government has much to its credit. It has lost the art of making the best of its achievements — and of reacting nimbly, rather than just brutally, to assaults from the other side.

To take over now at Smith Square, with the party at its nadir, ought to be the most attractive of propositions. Whoever runs its communications, the Tory party is likely to be more popular in a year's time than it is now, simply because of the political and economic cycles. Few now expect it to win the next election, however: so the new director of communications will hardly be blamed for its defeat. A prosperous future beckons, even for the man or woman who merely makes the result less bad. The party should be besieged by applicants.

SHOW TRIAL

The Peking regime is itself in the dock of history

The trial beginning today of Wei Jingsheng, China's leading dissident, looks like following a predictable course: at its conclusion the full weight of the Communist State is ready to be thrown against a man who has already spent 16 years in prison, and who is accused, alone and apparently without any outside help, of attempting to overthrow the Chinese State during his brief 20 months of liberty. The message of the trial and of the inevitable verdict is one of intimidation to other dissenters. The proceedings bear all the marks of a show trial in the classic Stalinist sense.

Behind the flimsy charges are the real concerns of China's divided and ailing leadership. Mr Wei's "crime" was that he mocked the icons of communism. He poured scorn on party propaganda, denounced the occupation of Tibet, revealed the misery that Mao's economic policy had inflicted on the countryside. In 1978 he gave a warning that Deng Xiaoping would one day become a dictator. And then, while serving his long sentence, he was brazen enough to write to Mr Deng and denounce him as a man "who will be laughed at and condemned by history".

Such lèse-majesté is deeply wounding. Face, dignity and respect are values as important to the Communist leadership as they have always been in Oriental society. Ad hominem attacks smack of an insolence intolerable to most leaders, and particularly resented when they come from a man who should have been "one of us" — the son of a senior party official. The Chinese fear is that Mr Wei voices what millions dare not utter. Sniggering will lead to disrespect, and disrespect to disobedience, the argument runs.

Some comparison can be drawn with the Soviet discomfiture over dissidents. In both cases, criticism was regarded as a mortal danger to a brittle leadership: and China's leaders know only too well the fate of the Soviet system. Mr Wei, however, has never had the public standing of Sakharov. Kept in isolation while in prison and under surveillance night and day after his release, he has never been able to use his personal charisma to found a cohesive opposition.

Mr Wei's courage has attracted the admiration of the West, and this has added to the embarrassment of his dissent. It has also ensured that his trial will be followed with critical interest. That puts the Peking leadership in a dilemma. It is extremely loath to allow any semblance of concession to foreign pressure, and hardliners argue that to give human rights groups a locus in Chinese internal affairs is a recipe for disaster. Others, however, believe that Chinese foreign policy interests are better served if Peking opens the trial to outsiders and defiantly publicises its case against Mr Wei.

All factions will argue that China has little to fear from a guilty verdict: the United States has already shown itself reluctant to promote the priority of human rights, a stance that other Western nations have already reluctantly adopted. Western pressure might secure Mr Wei a reprieve from execution; but little better can be expected for this brave and bitterly persecuted man.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

'Moral relativism' and the murder of a head teacher

From Mr Nicolas Walter

Sir, William Rees-Mogg ("The headmaster's lesson for us all", December 11) is guilty of mere propaganda in blaming the death of Philip Lawrence on "moral relativism"; of dirty propaganda in linking murder with divorce, and of disgusting propaganda in blaming the ills of society on "the children of Freddie Ayer".

He may argue for his idea of right and wrong, but he may not allege that other people whose views happen to be different have no idea of right and wrong, and he should not sneer at a dead philosopher whose views on the subject were more reasonable and realistic than his own.

One form of moral relativism in this country is the pluralism and tolerance which enable members of all religions and none to play a full part in society — something which should be welcomed by William Rees-Mogg as well as "the children of Freddie Ayer". He is able to complain about and even vote against "no-fault" divorce; others are able to argue and vote the other way. This is democracy; he prefers aristocracy.

Perhaps he is right, and relativism has gone too far. But he is wrong to pretend it has gone so far that any serious person says there is no such thing as right and wrong.

Yours etc,
NICOLAS WALTER,
Rationalist Press Association,
88 Islington High Street, N1.
December 11.

From the Bishop of Worcester

Sir, Many will want to applaud Lord Rees-Mogg's words. Furthermore, the heroic faith of Frances Lawrence with her young family is deeply moving and a cordial for drooping spirits.

I regret, however, that Lord Rees-Mogg chooses this occasion to make charges of "moral relativism" against Church of England bishops. These are inaccurate. It seems as if he did not hear all the debate on the Lord Chancellor's Family Law Bill. Perhaps I may be allowed to quote from my own speech: "We are letting down our children and thereby placing a time bomb under our society . . ."

I went on to say:

We as bishops stand four-square behind marriage and the family. They are within the order of God's creation and the basis of a stable and wholesome national life. We uphold the highest possible standard for marriage, but we are also pastors.

I went on to say that legislation cannot be merely for the elect but for those in need. "Those who are well have no need of a physician." This theme was repeated by the other bishops.

There was much more in my speech. Could Lord Rees-Mogg read his *Hansard* (November 30, cols 715-6) and perhaps say some words of good will towards the Church of England in tune with the season?

Yours sincerely,
†PHILIP WORCESTER,
The Bishop's House,
Hartlebury Castle,
Kidderminster, Worcestershire.
December 11.

From Mr Guy Hordern, JP

Sir, The Bishop of Rochester (Credo, December 9) advances the interests of Church and State when he pertinently writes: "It is difficult to imagine the Church being content with a 'no-fault' divorce." His recognition of the cardinal importance of responsibility, justice and fault within marriage is most welcome.

The Christian understanding of marriage is derived from God's love for us within which our fault is forgiven through the sacrifice of Christ, who also gives us an eternal relationship with Himself unbroken by our death.

To seek to eliminate fault as a contributory reason for divorce (as the Family Law Bill proposes) will further distance the divorce laws from a Christian understanding of marriage. To condone, and even to advocate, the elimination of fault (as some bishops and a former archbishop did at the Bill's second reading on November 30) constitutes a serious failure by the established Church to ensure that vital legislation is based on foundational Christian truth.

Yours sincerely,
GUY HORDERN,
124 Gough Road, Birmingham.
December 11.

From Mr Richard B. Marus

Sir, Your leading article ("A teacher dies", December 11) rightly calls for constructive action to combat a growing menace. However, some of the statements about the legislation require correction.

Possession of ordinary knives in public is prohibited by the Criminal Justice Act 1988, which makes it an offence to possess in a public place a bladed or pointed article, or a folding pocket knife with a blade exceeding 3in. This would include knives that are not "offensive weapons" *per se* (prohibited by the Prevention of Crime Act 1953).

The power to search for such an article is granted by the Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (PACE), applicable in England and Wales. An officer must have reasonable grounds to suspect that he will find such an article on a person or in a vehicle. These grounds can often be difficult to find.

Power of arrest for possession of such weapons is available under PACE; one of the specified conditions, such as the suspect's name or address not being known, has to be satisfied.

A specific power of arrest, combined with the power to imprison (which is not available for the offence against the Criminal Justice Act), will provide a greater deterrent to those who wish to arm themselves. This is one of the options that should be urgently considered by the Home Secretary.

I am, Sir, yours faithfully,
R. MARUS,
5 Hillside Close, Morden, Surrey.
December 11.

From Mr Peter Binning

Sir, Your leading article calls for "a new, middle way" for dealing with knives in public places. If there is a case for reform it is in the penalty, which currently stands at a maximum of a £1,000 fine.

However, as your leader correctly points out, the problem can only in part be solved by tougher laws and tougher policing.

Yours faithfully,
PETER BINNING,
Flat 4,
12 Bowden Street, Kennington, SE11.
December 11.

Labour policy on school standards

From the General Secretary of the National Association of Head Teachers

Sir, Both your leader and the article by Janet Daley today make a number of crucial points regarding the Labour Party's policy statement on standards in schools. I would add more.

Schools are run by governors and heads not by local education authorities. Indeed, it would be disastrous if we were to return to the pre-1988 position when LEAs last had real power. Accordingly, the effectiveness of Labour's policy will depend not upon local authorities but upon governors and heads.

The Labour Party appears to have a touching faith in the ability of local authorities to "deliver the goods" on standards, but I think it would be much better advised to rely upon those who are actually responsible for running schools.

It might be regarded as good politics to be seen to be tough on the teaching profession, but you are quite wrong to argue that teachers do not have the esteem accorded to nurses and ambulance workers. Your own recent MORI poll (report, November 24; letters, November 30) demonstrated that teachers were substantially ahead of most professions in the eyes of voters and lay third in the popularity stakes, behind the medical profession and the police.

Accordingly, exaggerated criticism of the teaching profession may rebound on those who think this will win them high marks in the political popularity stakes. The reality is that standards will only be raised by a positive approach to the teaching profession, not by unrealistic talk about getting rid of incompetent staff by short-circuiting existing procedures.

The sooner national politicians realise that they cannot control the education service in the way some would wish, and that they have to work in co-operation with the governors and heads of 25,000 schools, the sooner we will raise standards to the levels to which every sensible person in the education service aspires.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID HART, General Secretary,
National Association of
Head Teachers,
1 Heath Square, Boltro Road,
Haywards Heath, West Sussex.
December 6.

From Mrs Sheila Faith

Sir, When I was a school governor in the North East of England during the 1970s I was dismayed by the Labour Party's addiction to mixed-ability classes and teaching methods, which were designed to promote egalitarianism but seriously damaged children's education.

It has been very difficult to impose Conservative ideas on education while Labour local authorities, some of the teachers and the Labour Party itself were determined to continue with their doctrinaire approach.

In spite of fierce opposition from Labour, the Government has achieved a great deal in raising standards in schools. It must nevertheless be a great relief that the Opposition is now admitting the damage its ideology has done to education in the past.

Yours etc,
SHEILA FAITH
(Conservative MP for Belper, 1979-83),
11 Merlin House,
Oak Hill Park, Hampstead, NW3.
December 6.

Costs against JPs

From Mr M. Meredith Hardy

Sir, On the question of the legal liabilities of magistrates (letters, December 4, 6), I remember that this problem came up in the late 1980s when I was a chairman of several appeal tribunals and an immigration adjudicator. My colleagues and I were very concerned about possible liability, or more likely alleged liability, for our judicial decisions, brought by disappointed or disaffected litigants. The mere costs of defending such actions could be a matter of great concern to the lawyers undertaking these public duties.

We were reassured by the Lord Chancellor's Department at the time that we could assume we had the same immunity as judges in general and there was no need for concern. We always assumed that this covered stipendiary magistrates as well.

It seems absurd that lay magistrates cannot count on such immunity. It must be in the public interest for them to do so. Everyone in the country owes a debt to these dedicated people who undertake to administer 95 per cent of the work of the criminal courts for no monetary reward. Even a few cases of awards of costs could have a serious effect on future recruitment of JPs.

Yours faithfully,
M. MEREDITH HARDY,
Radwell Mill,
Baldock, Hertfordshire.
December 7.

Drink-drive limits

From Mr Benjamin Frank

Sir, The Government has again rejected a call to reduce the alcohol limit for drivers (News in brief, December 5) on the basis that it believes people will simply ignore a lower or zero limit. The fact is that some people will drink to excess before driving regardless of any limit, while some responsible people are caught out trying to stay within the present one.

In the course of my duties as a police sergeant I have dealt with several people who genuinely believed they would be within the limit by having "only a couple" of drinks. I have a certain sympathy for them. Unfortunately intake of food, differences in physical make-up and the strength of drinks make it difficult to predict how much drink will keep them within the limit.

Notwithstanding this, it has been shown that just one drink significantly increases the chance of having an accident. The Government ought not to encourage motorists to gamble when the cost of losing is so high.

Yours faithfully,
B. FRANK,
28 Herriot Way,
Thirsk, North Yorkshire.
December 7.

Business letters, page 29

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

Rethinking investment in the arts

From the Chairman of the London Arts Board

Sir, Your leader on arts funding ("The right subsidy", December 7) is well taken. This board is grateful for the capital funds which flow from the National Lottery. Lottery rules have, however, created a paradox: riches for buildings while activity costs are squeezed beyond the limits of good business sense.

Valuable as your proposals are, it is premature to tinker with the lottery rules. The real need at this point is for a new look at the case for investing in the arts, not simply as part of the nation's intellectual and aesthetic life, but also as part of the enterprise economy. The lottery, important as it is, is but one source of this investment.

The case rests on three propositions. Investment in making the arts widely available is desirable. Such investment will be wasted unless the place of the arts in the national curriculum and discretionary student grants are maintained. Similarly, investment in capital infrastructure will be pointless if investment in people and productive activity is run down.

The lottery rules should be considered as one part of a coherent philosophy for investment. Those responsible for policy should bear in mind the importance of the arts and arts institutions to the reputation and economy of the nation and the high degree of efficiency achieved by the arts in applying public money.

Arts bodies do not on the whole attract the hostile attention of the Public Accounts Committee. Would that the same could be said for immensely more costly projects and programmes elsewhere.

Yours,
CLIVE PRIESTLEY,
Chairman,
London Arts Board,
Elme House, 133 Long Acre,
Covent Garden, WC2.
December 7.

Older workers

From Mr Eric Reid

Sir, The Association of Retired People and Persons Over Fifty agrees with the sentiment expressed in your article, "Defusing the age bomb" (Law, December 5), that "much more needs to be done to reduce the injustice faced by older workers".

There is little doubt that severe skills shortages will occur as the "baby boom" passes its peak, which is why employers should be seeking ways to retain and re-train their senior workers rather than discarding them.

Recognising the effect on the economy of the "demographic time bomb", we are campaigning in Britain for a flexible decade of retirement between the ages of 60 and 70. We would welcome the introduction of appropriate legislation along the lines of the Age Discrimination in Employment Act now in force in America. Unlike "voluntary" redundancy or "early retirement" (which, these days, can begin at 50 or even earlier in the UK) the US Act gives older workers the freedom to choose whether or not to continue to work — a choice which is increasingly being denied to our own workforce.

We have already elicited a commitment to age legislation from any future Labour government and hope that David Winnick's Private Member's Bill (scheduled for February 1996) proscribing age limits in job advertisements will find the support it deserves from MPs of every political persuasion.

Yours faithfully
ERIC REID
(Vice Chairman),
The Association of Retired People
and Persons Over Fifty,
Greencoat House,
Francis Street, SW1.
December 5.

Rail delays

From Mr Peter Burfoot

Sir, According to your report, "Thaw is bad news for queues of rail travellers" (December 8), passenger service operators "are expected to lodge large claims for compensation from Railtrack". Passengers, however, have no right to make corresponding claims against operators except under the provisions of the 1992 British Rail Passenger's Charter.

For example, six journeys made by me over the last three days were extended by an average of 42 minutes (an increase over the normal journey time of 82 per cent) because of cancellations and delays. Under the terms of the division on which I travel, however, the great personal inconvenience and loss of business time I suffered will only be compensated if, during the entire 12 months up to November 1, 1996, either more than 2 per cent of trains on this division have been cancelled or more than 20 per cent of them have been classified as "late".

There is, therefore, ample opportunity on the part of the operators to run only a fair-weather service and even cancel trains to ensure that they are not late, or allow trains to run late instead of cancelling them (depending on what is required to maintain the two sets of statistics below the levels at which compensation is payable); and presumably pocket the compensation from Railtrack.

Let us hope that when the Charter is reviewed in the light of privatisation we will see the abolition of the exclusion clauses in the Passenger Conditions of Carriage and their replacement by a compensation code which is both instant and directly related to the cancellations and delays suffered by individual passengers on the particular journeys made by them, even if they are season-ticket holders.

Yours faithfully,
PETER BURFOOT,
64 Baker Street, W1.
December 8.

Listing on demand

From Mr George Ferguson

Sir, I propose the "hit-listing" of buildings, by popular demand, for which grants should be available to encourage their demolition before the Heritage Secretary proposes their preservation (letters, November 15, 30).

Maybe this scheme could be run by the Secretary of State for Health.

Yours etc,
GEORGE FERGUSON,
Ferguson Mann (architects),
Royal Colonnade,
18 Great George Street, Bristol, Avon.
December 8.

Untimely hatched

From Mr Ken Woodford

Sir, An unseasonable arrival in our garden this Advent Sunday: a wild duck leading her nine newly hatched ducklings from their nest. Global warming or coming in from the cold?

Yours faithfully,
KEN WOODFORD,
Yonderwood, Orney Hill Farm,
Witney, Oxfordshire.
December 3.

Bird brained

From Mr Alan Millard

Sir, Is the profound brain specialisation which enables chickens to use each of their eyes for different purposes (report, December 9) similar to the human hearing mechanism which allows information to go in one ear and out the other?

Yours faithfully,
ALAN MILLARD,
8 Medina Court,
Marine Parade West,
Lee-on-the-Solent, Hampshire.
December 9.

• Belfast: John H. Lunn Ltd. • Dublin: Weir & Son Ltd. • Chester: Boodle & Dunthorne • Leeds: Berry's.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
December 9: The Duke of York, Colonel-in-Chief, The Staffordshire Regiment (The Prince of Wales's), today visited the 1st Battalion in Northern Ireland.

Captain David Thompson was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
December 11: The Princess of Wales, Patron, the Foundation for Conductive Education, this morning left Heathrow Airport, London, for the United States of America in order to attend the United Cerebral Palsy of New York's Annual Dinner this evening at the New York Hilton.

Mr Patrick Jephson was in attendance.

KENSINGTON PALACE
December 11: The Duke of Gloucester, Patron, Inner London Probation Service, this evening attended a Reception at 71/73 Great Peter Street, London SW1.

YORK HOUSE
ST JAMES'S PALACE
December 11: The Duke of Kent, Vice-Chairman, the British Overseas Trade Board, this evening attended a farewell reception for the departing chairman, Sir Derek Hornby, at Lancaster House, St James's Palace, London SW1.

His Royal Highness, Patron, later attended a concert and dinner given by the European Union Baroque Orchestra, St James's Palace, London SW1.

The Duchess of Kent, Patron, this afternoon attended the International Launch of the UNICEF 1996 State of the World's Children Report, Stakis St Ermin's Hotel, Caxton Street, London SW1.

Birthdays today

The Princess Royal and Captain Timothy Laurence celebrate the 3rd anniversary of their marriage today.

Miss Tracy Austin, tennis player, 35; Mr Lionel Blair, dancer and broadcaster, 64; Lord Borwick, 78; Major-General Sir Rupert Brazier-Creagh, 86; Mr Will Carling, rugby player, 30; Miss Denise Coffey, actress, director and writer, 59; Mr Jasper Conran, fashion designer, 36; Mr Kenneth Cranham, actor, 51; the Hon Mrs Gwyneth Dunwoody, MP, 65; Mr William Ebbert, former chairman and managing director, Vauxhall Motors, 53; Mr David Elsworth, racehorse trainer, 56; Mr Emerson Fittipaldi, racing driver, 49; Miss Connie Francis, singer, 57; Mr Roy Grantham, trade unionist, 69; Air Commodore Dame Felicity Hill, former director, WRAF, 80; Mr Cliff Holden, painter, 76; Dr Philip Ledger, Principal, Royal Scottish Academy of Music and Drama, 58; Mr Chris Mullin, MP, 48; Mr Frank Sinatra, singer and actor, 80; the Right Rev Denis Wakeling, former Bishop of Southwell, 77; Miss Dionne Warwick, singer, 54.

Luncheons

Scriveners' Company
The Lord Mayor, accompanied by the Lady Mayoress and Alderman and Sheriff Sir Peter and Lady Levene, was presented with the *Scriveners' Company Quill Pen* by the Master, Mr H.J.W. Harman, at the Mansion House yesterday. At a court luncheon held afterwards the Lord Mayor was also presented with a donation to his chosen charity, St John Ambulance.

Rotary Club of London
Mr Charles Seaford was the speaker at a luncheon meeting of the Rotary Club of London held yesterday at the Portman Hotel. Mr Len Harding, president, was in the chair.



GILL ALLEN

Peter Blond, a director of Sotheby's, at the wheel of the Prince of Wales's Aston Martin which sold yesterday for £111,500 at auction at the RAF Museum in Hendon, north London. The car, a dark-green 1987 V8 Vantage Volante, was given by the Prince to his charity trust. One refinement on the car is a leather-trimmed glass jar, its lid inscribed HRH, in which the Prince stored treats for his polo ponies

Today's royal engagements

The Queen will hold an investiture at Buckingham Palace at 11.00.

The Prince of Wales will attend the Biodiversity Seminar dinner at Lancaster House at 8.00.

The Duke and Duchess of Gloucester will attend *Joy to the World 1995* at the Albert Hall at 7.15.

The Duke of Kent, as Grand Master of the United Grand Lodge of England, will attend a reception and dinner at the Masonic Hall, Braintree, at 6.00.

The Duchess of Kent will present the Children of Courage Awards at Westminster Abbey at 10.50.

Dinners

Guild of Freemen of the City of London
The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress, accompanied by the Sheriffs and their ladies, were present at the annual dinner of the Guild of Freemen of the City of London held last night at Guildhall.

The Master, Mr Alderman Clive Martin, presided. The Lord Chancellor, the Lord Mayor, Vice-Admiral Sir Peter Buchanan, Senior Warden, and the Speaker *also spoke.*

Board of Deputies of British Jews
Mr Tony Blair, Leader of HM Opposition, accompanied by Mrs Cherie Blair, QC, were the principal guests at a dinner of the Board of Deputies of British Jews held last night at the Banqueting House, Whitehall, in honour of Mr Eldred Tabachnik, QC, the president. Mr and Mrs David Goldman were the hosts.

The Athenaeum
Sir David Wilson was the speaker at a talk dinner held last night at The Athenaeum. Dr R.G.W. Anderson, was the chairman.

Charterhouse

The Governing Body of Charterhouse is pleased to announce that the Rev John Witheridge, Conduct of Eton College, has been appointed as Headmaster with effect from September 1, 1996.

Royal Association in Aid of Deaf People

Mr Alistair Burt, Minister for Social Security and Disabled People, gave a reading at a Festival of Carols and Readings for deaf and deafblind people held yesterday at St Margaret's Church, Westminster Abbey. The Rev Peter Cowell, priest vicar of St Margaret's, officiated, and the Rev Christopher Colledge, RAD Pastoral Care Co-ordinator, the Rev Vera Hunt, Chairwoman of the National Deaf Church Conference and Honorary RAD Chaplain, led the prayers.

Lord Deedes, Brigadier Jim Grear, Chairman of the Royal National Institute for Deaf People, Ms Sally Hawkins, Director of the United Kingdom Council on Deafness, Mr Steven Hazelhurst, a deafblind member of the National Deafblind League, Mr Christopher Holborow, Vice-President of LINK and President of the South East Regional Association for the Deaf, Mr Gareth Jones, Honorary Chairman of The National Deaf Children's Society, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Brentwood and Mr Stewart Simpson, Chief Executive of the Council for the Advancement of Communication with Deaf People, gave readings.

The Right Rev Roy Williamson, Bishop of Southwark, and Vice-President of RAD, *gave an* address.

The Choir of St Margaret's, with the London Diocesan Deaf Choir, the Gillingham Deaf Choir, the Clapham and Welling Deaf Choirs and the Choir of the Royal School for Deaf Children, Margate, sang and signed during the service.

Field Marshal Lord Bramall, KT, Lord Lieutenant of Greater London and a Vice-President of RAD, and Lady Bramall and the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Westminster attended. Among others present were:

Members of both Houses of Parliament, the Mayors and Mayoresses of Barking and Dagenham, Bexley, Bromley, Chelmsford, Colchester, Ealing, Enfield, Gillingham, Greenwich, Hackney, Harrow, Hillingdon, Hounslow, Islington, Lambeth, Lewisham, Newham, Redbridge, Richmond upon Thames, Southwark, Tower Hamlets, Waltham Forest, Wandsworth, the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Chief Executive of Castle Point, the Mayor of Hammersmith and Fulham, the Deputy Mayor of Havering, the Deputy Mayor and Mayoress of Thurrock, the Mayoress of Haringey, Councillors from Rochford District Council, and representatives of the British Deaf Association, the Royal National Institute for Deaf People, the City Literary Institute, the Council for Voluntary Service, the Campaign for Tackling Acquired Deafness, Breakthrough, Sense, the Kent County Council Education Service, Kent County Council Social Services, the Path Finder Mental Health Services NHS Trust, the Hi Kent Association, the Donald Forrester Charitable Trust, the Julie Brown Trust, the Economist Charitable Trust, the Beatrice Laing Trust, the Gardeners' Company, the Royal National Throat, Nose and Ear Hospital, the Royal School for Deaf Children, Margate, Butcher Hunt, the 3i Group, Sanyo International, Carr Sheppards, Troika, Charity Recruitment, Norwich Union, Midland Bank, National Westminster Bank, White and Mileson, Cubex and Morley and Scott.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Samuel Hood, Viscount Hood, Admiral, Butleigh, Somerset, 1724; Erasmus Darwin, physician, Elston, Nottinghamshire, 1731; Anna Seward (the Swan of Lichfield), poet and novelist, Eyam Rectory, Derbyshire, 1747; Sir William Beechey, painter, Burford, Oxfordshire, 1753; William Lloyd Garrison, militant Abolitionist, Newburyport, Massachusetts, 1805; Gustave Flaubert, novelist, Rouen, 1821; John Richard Green, historian, Oxford, 1837; Edvard Munch, painter, Loten, Norway, 1863; Edward G. Robinson, actor, Bucharest, 1893.

DEATHS: John Craig, Kirk leader, Edinburgh, 1600; Albrecht von Haller, botanist and poet, Berne, 1777; Sir Marc Isambard Brunel, engineer, London, 1849; Jean Louis Agassiz, naturalist, Cambridge, 1873; Robert Browning, poet, Venice, 1889; Douglas Fairbanks Sr, film actor, Santa Monica, California, 1939; Peter Fraser, Prime Minister of New Zealand 1940-49, Wellington, 1950; Tallulah Bankhead, actress, New York, 1968.

Marconi gave the first public demonstration of radio at Toynbee Hall, London, 1896.

Christopher Cockerell patented his prototype of the hovercraft, 1955.

Kenya became a republic, 1964.

Latest wills

The 2nd Viscount Furness, of London NW8, former businessman and theatrical producer, and secretary general of the British Association of the Military Order of Malta 1965-78, left estate valued at £481,427 gross, £263,606 net. He left a few personal bequests and the residue to the Military Order of Malta.

Rear Admiral Arthur David Torlesse, of Sway, Lymington, Hampshire, the naval aviator, who commanded the special squadron charged with the detonation of Britain's first atomic bomb, left estate valued at £252,111 net. He left his estate to relatives.

Captain John Richards Barnes, of Basingstoke, Hants, the wartime destroyer commander and captain of *HMS Ashanti*, one of the celebrated Tribal Class destroyers which fought so hard and suffered such heavy losses during the last war, left estate valued at £151,989 net.

Wing Commander Charles George Buchanan McClare, of Aspley Guise, Beds, the wartime test pilot and former Professor of Flight at Cranfield, left estate valued at £218,437 net. He left £4,000 to Trinity College, Oxford.

Meeting

Royal Over-Seas League
Captain Christopher Orlebar was the guest speaker at a meeting of the Discussion Circle of the Royal Over-Seas League held last night at Over-Seas House, St James's, Mrs Elizabeth Cresswell presided.

Concert

Glaziers' Company
Mr P.G. Lowe, Master of the Glaziers' Company, accompanied by the Wardens and Mr Michael Campbell, Chairman of the Trustees of the Lord Mayor Treloar College for Physically Disabled Young People, welcomed the guests at a Christmas Concert held last night at Glaziers' Hall.

Appointment

Mr Peter Marshall to be Ambassador to Algeria. He has been the Charge d'Affaires at Algiers since January 1994.

University news

Oxford
Somerville College
Dr Fiona Caldicott, President of the Royal College of Psychiatrists, Chairman of the Conference of Medical Royal Colleges and Medical Director of South Birmingham Mental Health NHS Trust, has been elected as Principal of Somerville College from next autumn, in succession to Mrs Catherine Hughes.

Cambridge
Fitzwilliam College
John Stanley Pethick, MSc (London), MA, PhD, presently Professor of Geography and Director of the Institute of Estuarine and Coastal Studies at Hull University, has been elected to a fellowship in Class A from January 1.

Durham
Dr Tim Burt has been appointed Master of Hatfield College, Durham, and Professor of Geography from October 1, 1996. He is at present Chairman of the British Geomorphological Research Group and editor of the journal *Geography Review.*

Miss Deborah Lavin has been appointed Principal-elect of the university's planned new college to be built on land at Howlands Farm, Durham.

Glasgow
Professor Rick Trainor has been appointed Vice-Principal of the university from August 1, 1996.

Stirling
Dr Roderick Watson has been promoted to a Personal Chair in English Studies.

Keele
Three honorary degrees were awarded by the Vice-Chancellor of Keele University, Professor Janet Finch, at a degree ceremony in the university chapel on Saturday, December 2:

Professor Stuart Hall, Professor of Sociology at the Open University, received the degree of Doctor of Letters.

The Staffordshire-born conductor and composer Elgar Howarth received a Doctor of Music degree.

Sir Moray Stewart, Second Permanent Under Secretary at the Ministry of Defence, a Keele graduate, was made a Doctor of Letters.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J.M.A. Biggs
and Miss R.E. Harrison
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, son of Dr Derek Biggs and Dr Kate Biggs, of Bognor Regis, West Sussex, and Rosemary, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs William Harrison, of Wartling, East Sussex.

Mr C.H.R. Bracken
and Miss S.L. Braybrook
The engagement is announced between Charles, elder son of Mr Charles Bracken, of Winchester, Hampshire, and Mrs Mary Bracken, of Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire, and Sarah Louise, daughter of Mr and Mrs Nigel Braybrook, of Pinner, Middlesex.

Mr G.V. Holliday
and Miss E.H.L. Rodgers
The engagement is announced between Godfrey, son of the late Mr and Mrs M.D. Holliday, of Wooburn Green, Buckinghamshire, and Elizabeth, daughter of the late Mr S.C. Rodgers and of Mrs G.L. Rodgers, of Reigate, Surrey.

Dr S.A. Leggetter
and Miss J. Duncan
The engagement is announced between Steven Alexander, son of Mr and Mrs Raymond Leggetter, of Wokingham, Berkshire, and Jacqui, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Duncan, of Clackmannan, Clackmannanshire.

Captain J.S. Moore
and Miss A.C. McCann
The engagement is announced between Justin, son of Dr and Mrs Michael Moore, of Grittleton, Wiltshire, and Andrea, daughter of Mr and Mrs Thomas McCann, of County Antrim, Northern Ireland.

Mr A.W.M. Ross-Wilson
and Miss C.A. Wilson-Black
The engagement is announced between Alexander, son of Mr and Mrs William Ross-Wilson, of Barsby, Leicestershire, and Camilla, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Malcolm Wilson Black, of Markfield, Leicestershire.

Mr S.J. Watkins
and Miss K.T.A. Cole
The engagement is announced between Simon, younger son of Mr and Mrs R.V. Watkins, of Colchester, and Tabitha, only daughter of Mr and Mrs Tarquin Cole, of Rye, Sussex.

Mr P.E.F.M. Milner
and Miss A. Buys
The engagement is announced between Patrick Edward French Mordaunt, younger son of Mr Charles and Lady Charlene Milner, of Natte Valleij, and Andrea, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs Dolph Buys, of Paarl, South Africa.

Mr H.J. Seymour
and Miss A.S. Hindmarch
The engagement is announced between Hugh James, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Hugh Seymour, of Bratton, Wiltshire, and Anya Susannah, daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Hindmarch, of "Riffhams", Danbury, Essex.

Mr J.P. Welch
and Miss E.J. Cooney
The engagement is announced between James, son of Mr and Mrs T.P. Welch, of Marlow, Buckinghamshire, and Emma Jane, daughter of Mr and Mrs J.D. Cooney, of Speen, Buckinghamshire.

Marriages

Mr A.J. Charman
and Miss R.M. Gant
The marriage took place on December 9, 1995, at All Saints' Church, Esher, between Mr Andrew Julian Charman, only son of Mr A. Charman, of East Grinstead, West Sussex, and Mrs G. Lee, of Howley, Somerset, and Miss Rachel Mary Gant, elder daughter of the Revd P.R. and Mrs Gant, of Esher, Surrey.

The Rev S.G. Downham
and Miss A.M. Bowerman
The marriage took place on Friday, December 8, 1995, at Holy Trinity, Brompton, of the Rev Simon Downham, younger son of the Rev Canon and Mrs Peter Downham, of The Vicarage, Cotehill, Carlisle, to Miss Anna Bowerman, youngest daughter of Mr and Mrs David Bowerman, of Champs Hill, Coldwaltham, West Sussex. The Rev Sandy Millar officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Lydia Woods, Rachel Burd and Emily Taylor. Mr Simon Friend was best man.

A reception was held at The Victoria and Albert Museum and the honeymoon will be spent abroad.

Church appointments

The Rev Alan Oates, Priest-in-charge, St Cuthbert Stella, Blaydon on Tyne: to be the incumbent of that benefice (Durham).

The Rev Nicholas Parry, Team Vicar, Witney (Oxford): to be Vicar, Costessey, St Edmund w St Helen (Norwich).

The Rev Alan Payne, Rector, Kippax w Allerton Bywater Team Ministry: to be *also* Rural Dean of Whitkirk (Ripon).

The Rev Gordon Plumb, Team Vicar, Harrowby, Grantham Team Ministry: to be Priest-in-charge, Saxby, South Ferriby, Horkstow, Bonby and Worlaby (Lincoln).

The Rev Simon Reed, Assistant Curate, Holy Trinity, Walton, Aylesbury (Oxford): to be Priest-in-charge, Church of The Ascension, Hanger Hill w St Mary, West Twyford (London).

The Rev Jonathan Roberts, Priest-in-charge, Holy Trinity, Washington: to be the incumbent of that benefice (Durham).

The Rev Paul Seaman, Team Vicar, Moulsecoomb: to be Rector, Whyke St George w Rumboldswyke and Portfield All Saints (Chichester).

The Rev Geoffrey Shilvock, Vicar, Wolverley and Cookley: to be *also* Rural Dean of Kidderminster (Worcester).

Retirements and resignations
The Rev Desmond Minty, Team Vicar (High Ercall and Rowton) Wrockwardine Deanery Team (Lichfield): to retire December 30.

Prebendary John Osborn, Director of the London Diocesan Board for Schools: to retire December 31.

The Rev Roger Wakely, Vicar, Galleywood St Michael and All Angels (Chelmsford): retired October 31, with permission to officiate in the diocese.

The Rev Mark Williams, Rector, Great Ellingham, Little Ellingham, Rockland All Saints w Rockland St Peter (Norwich): retired November 9.

Other appointments
Ms Sandra Benham, Church Army Regional Fundraiser for the diocese of St Albans: to be Lay worker, w special responsibility as St Philip's Project Manager, St Philip, West Bromwich (Lichfield).

Captain Richard Knowles, Church Army Evangelist to Mansfield (Southwell): to be Team Minister, Lowestoft St Margarer and Lay Chaplain of Lowestoft College (Norwich).

Church in Wales

Diocese of Bangor
The Rev Andrew Jones, presently Director of Pastoral Studies at St Michael's College, Llandaff, *is to* become Priest in Charge of the Parishes of Llandbedrog and Llannor.

Diocese of St Asaph
The Rev Christopher Nicholas Lynden Potter, Assistant Curate in the Parish of Flint, to be Incumbent of Llanfair Dyffryn Clwyd, Efenechtyd, Llanefiden and Derwen.

BMD'S: 0171 782 7272
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

PERSONAL COLUMN

TRADE: 0171 481 1982
FAX: 0171 481 9313

You have used hard words about me, says the Lord. Yet you ask, 'How have we spoken against you?' You have said, 'To serve God is futile. What do we gain by observing his rules?' Malachi 3 : 13, 14

BIRTHS

AGNEW - On 9th December 1995 at 8.28 pm, at St Thomas' Hospital London, to Sarah (née Newman) and James, a son, Henry Andrew Charles.

BARRATT - On December 7th at The Portland Hospital to Natalie (née) Gibbs and Roger a beautiful son Luke Nicholas Adam, a brother for Jake.

BRADLEY - On 5th December 1995, to Claire (née Reynolds) and James a daughter Lucy Matilda, a sister for Emily and William.

BRENNAN - On November 26th at St Thomas', to Annabel (née Mitchell) and Michael, a daughter, Helena Sophie, a sister for Lavinia and Charlie.

CHOULET - Born on Dec. 9th at The Portland Hospital to Leah and Jeffrey. We have a handsome son Jacob Samuel, a brother for Ryan Shayna and Hannah.

FOWLER - On December 1st at The Portland Hospital to Shelly Bessadone and Hugh Fowler a wonderful son Ned

MASTERS - On 8th December 1995, at SMMH Portsmouth, to Jennifer (née Sykes) and James, a daughter Anastasia Beatrice Elizabeth, a sister for our precious son Louis.

PENDLEBURY - On December 11th 1995, in Melbourne, Australia, to Jean (née Thomas) and Ian, a son, Harry James, a brother for Jack.

PUDDICOMBE - On December 6th at Stoke Mandeville Hospital to Carolyn and James, a son Berdamin John Andrew.

ROTHSCHILD-CAMERON - On December 5, to Anna (née de Rothschild) and Timothy, a daughter, Olivia Camilla Molly, a sister for Tristan and Phoebe.

SMITH - On December 3rd at The Portland Hospital to Karen (née) Keala and Phillip, a son, Jonathan Stephen

TENNANT - On December 7th, 1995, to Cathy (née Axson) and Mark, a daughter, Sophie Susan.

BIRTHS

TYM - On 9th December 1995 at The Princess Royal Hospital, Haywards Heath, to Vanessa (née Reeves) and David, a daughter Harriet Maria Kathleen.

WAISSEL - On November 15th at The Portland Hospital to Susan (née) Chaplin and Lawrence a precious son Scott, a brother for Grant

DEATHS

AGNEW - Sir Godfrey KCVO, CB, aged 82 on Sunday 10th December. Beloved husband of Nancy and the late Ruth. A much loved father of Patrick, Ian, Veronica, Christianne, Charlotte and Andrew, and step-father of Veronica, Reggie and John. A dearly loved and devoted grandfather. Funeral for family and close friends. Memorial Service later.

ALCOCK - Alderman Robert Arthur James of Twickenham, died peacefully at home on Saturday 9th December. A private cremation to be attended by family and invited guests has been arranged for Friday 15th. Wishes were left that there be no flowers, but donations to Royal Star and Garter Home for Disabled Sailors, Soldiers and Airmen, Richmond, Surray TW10 6RR. A Memorial Service has been arranged at St Mary Magdalene, The Parish Church of Richmond, Paradise Road, on Tuesday 23rd January 1996 at 2.30pm to which all friends and colleagues would be welcome.

CARLTON - Casimir ("Carl") on Friday December 8th aged 79, beloved husband of Joyce and dear father of Angela and Nicholas peacefully at home with his family. Funeral service at St Mary Magdalen Church, Norwich Road, Ipswich on Monday December 18th at 11.00 am. Flowers may be sent to Farthing, Singleton & Hastings, 650 Woodbridge Road, Ipswich.

DEATHS

CEREDARI-TASSI - Giuliano On 7th December 1995. Requiem Mass at 11 am on Thursday 14th December at St Etheldreda's Church, Ely Place, London EC1 followed by private cremation. Funeral Directors W.G.Miller, 93 Essex Road, N1 2SJ. (0171) 226 3886.

COLLINS - On December 8th in hospital, Peggy Ambrose Sheila aged 73 years. Dear cousin of Joan and friend of Audrey and Vera. Funeral Service at 2.40 pm on Friday December 15th at Worthing Crematorium. No flowers by request please, but donations in her memory for R.N.L.I. may be sent to H D. Tribe Ltd. 259 Goring Road, Goring, Worthing Tel: (01903) 249913.

CURTIS - On December 9th 1995, peacefully at home in Sherborne, Miriam Musselbrook aged 82 years. Much loved mother of Mary. Family Service to take place at Yeovil Crematorium on Monday December 18th at 11 am. No flowers please. Donations to The Friends of the Yeatman Hospital, c/o Eason Funeral Services.

DALGLEISH - On December 7th 1995, peacefully in Hospital, Joan aged 69 years. Beloved mother of Sarah and grandmother of Justin and Zero. Funeral service at Westelton Parish Church Suffolk on Friday December 15th at 12.30p.m. Followed by private cremation. Family flowers only donations of desired made payable to British Heart Foundation c/o Tony Browns Funeral Service Saxmundham Suffolk. IP17 1DJ.

DODD - Charles Aaron, MBE, C ENG, FIEE, M Cons E, on 5th December, died suddenly at home. Loving husband to the late Jenny and father to Alexander. Service at Chichester Crematorium on December 18th at 12 noon. Family flowers only, donations to Sussex Wildlife Trust, c/o H.D. Tribe Ltd, 21 West Street, Storrington. Tel 01903 742686.

DEATHS

DOWSON - Margery C.H. beloved mother of Charles, Ann and Merrick and widow of Edward. Passed peacefully away on December 8th after a short illness. A Memorial Service will be held at St Luke's Church, Maidenhead at 11.30 am Saturday December 16th. No flowers please, but donations if desired to The League of Friends of Northfield and Greenfield c/o Mrs B Armstrong, 36 Malthouse Close, Church Crookham, Hants. GU13 0TB. Enquiries. Tel: (01628) 23822.

ENGLAND - Peacfully on 6th December at Mount Vernon Hospital, Gerald Joseph. No flowers by request. Donations, if desired, to Collin's Ward, Mount Vernon Hospital, Northwood for Equipment. Enquiries H C Grimstead, Eastcote. Tel: (0181) 866 0688.

ERNALS - On December 7th 1995 at St. Richard's Hospital, Chichester, Kenneth F.J. Much loved husband of Mavis and Father of Nicola, Julia and David. Funeral Service on Friday December 15th 1.30pm at St. Bartholomew's Church, Haslemere. Family flowers only but if desired donations to Leukaemia Research Fund, c/o G. M. Luff & Partners, 84 Lion Lane, Haslemere, Surrey GU27 1JH.

EVANS - Peacefully on Saturday December 9th at Glangwili Hospital, David W. Oodfrey of Brookwood, Llwyndafydd. Beloved husband of Margaret and dear brother of Pamela. Funeral strictly private on Thursday 14th December. Further enquiries to R Evans F/D. (01545) 560616.

DEATHS

FORRESTER - Anne Rosemary (née Fyfe) of Glencairn, Tobermory and previously of Ardnacross, Isle of Mull. Peacefully at home on 8th December. Dearly loved wife of the late John Forrester and mother of Robin, Rory, Lilah and Peter. Deeply missed by her family, grandchildren and great-grandchildren and very many relations and friends. Funeral at St. Columba's Church, Gruline at 1.30 p.m. on Thursday, 14th December. Family flowers. Donations to Red Cross, c/o Mrs. James, Torosay Castle, Mull.

GEAR - Arthur Middleton-Jim, Architect. Died suddenly at home on 9th December 1995. Loved husband of Vivian, daughter Chloe and son-in-law John. Funeral service at 3pm on 14th December at West Chapel, Golders Green Crematorium. Any flowers to Leverton and Sons. Tel: (0181) 455 4992.

GILLMORE - Romaine Muriel peacefully on 10th December 1995, aged 96 years, Wife of the late Horatio Gillmore, beloved mother of Adrian, adored mother-in-law of Jane and devoted grandmother to Guy, Charles and Hal. Funeral Service at Stoke Gabriel Parish Church, on Saturday 16th December at 2.30pm. Family flowers only please, donations if desired to The Royal British Legion c/o T & I Stockman, 19 Holwell Road, Brixham, Devon.

GRAY - Hamish, very much loved husband, father and grandfather. Died 10th December 1995. Private cremation.

HALEY - Lorna, on 9th December 1995, much loved wife of Robert, mother of Annie and Sue. All enquiries please to H & C Matthews Funeral Directors, Malmesbury Wilts. (01666) 822216.

HEALEY - Clive 06/12/95. Funeral private. No flowers. Further enquiries - Christopher Wickenden Funeral Services 0181 579 7176.

DEATHS

HIGGINS - Robin MC., TD, peacefully in Northumberland on December 10th 1995. Loved husband of Sinna, father of Michael and Wiggy, grandfather of Sophia and Harry. Funeral Private.

HOGARTH - Grace Weston, Author and Publisher, widow of William David Hogarth and much loved mother and grandmother of David, Caroline, Catherine and Helen. Peacefully on December 11th 1995. Funeral at The Parish Church, Holton Wheatley nr Oxford at Midday on Tuesday December 19th 1995. Family flowers only. Donations if desired to Signal 78, c/o R V Maisel, 124 Lime Walk, Headington OX3 7AF.

HOWARTH - The Rev Benjamin Wrigley peacefully on December 8th aged 76 loving husband of Irene, father of Paul, father-in-law of Stephanie and wonderful grandfather of Tom, Edward and little Christopher. Funeral Service at 11.30am on Friday December 15th at St Andrews Church, Chew Stoke. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired to The Royal British Legion C/O Michael W Rowe, Funeral Director, Tunbridge Cottage, Chew Magna, Avon. Tel 01275 332565.

HSIEH - Margaret, peacefully on 9th December at North London Hospice, a dearly beloved wife of her late husband Hsieh Tso Kung. Much loved mother of Alexander and Mark. Funeral at Golders Green Crematorium at 3.30pm Friday 15th December. No flowers, but donations if wished to The North London Hospice, 47 Woodside Avenue, London, N12 8TF.

HUDSON-DALES - Gillian on 8th December, peacefully in hospital, beloved wife of Terry and dearly loved mother of Ben and Luke. Known to her colleagues as Gill Dales, until recently Managing Director Andover Cablevision. Funeral at Randalls Park Crematorium, Leatherhead, on Friday 15th December at 3.30pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if desired, to Neuro-Oncology Research Fund, Royal Marsden Hospital, Downs Road, Sutton, Surrey.

DEATHS

JEFFERYS - Penelope Jane (née Leather) on December 10th. Dearly loved friend and wife of Martin, dearly loved mother of Amber and daughter of Kay.

KEMP - After a very short illness, John Rupert Maitland Kemp of Ampthill, Bedfordshire. Died peacefully on 4th December 1995 and cremation took place at Bedford on 8th December 1995.

LAMBOURNE - On December 9th 1995 peacefully, Joan Mary, beloved wife of the late Norman, much loved mother of Christopher, Jocelyn and Hilary and adored grandmother of Sasha, Nicholas and Ben, Rupert, Annabel and William, Deborah, Susan, Hayley and Andrew. Funeral Service at St Brelard's Parish Church, Jersey, on Friday December 15th at 11.30 am. Family flowers only. Donations to Jersey Hospice Care c/o The Treasurer, Reads & Co, P.O. Box 641, 1 Seaton Place, St Helier, JE4 8YJ.

LANGDON - On December 8th 1995, peacefully at home Harry James Langdon T.D. aged 87. Husband of the late Pamela (née Bolton), father of Adrianne and Celia and beloved grandfather of Annabel, Giles, Katherine, Holly and Robert. Funeral at Mortlake Crematorium at 11.30,a.m. Friday 15th December. Family flowers only but donations may be sent to the Parkinson's Disease Society c/o T.H. Sanders & Sons Ltd. 447 Upper Richmond Road, London SW14.

LUX - Martin, on Friday 8th December unexpectedly but peacefully at home, aged 86. Much loved by his children Jonathan and Naomi, grandchildren, companion Trudi, family and friends. He will be sadly missed.

MacKAY - On December 9th 1995 as the result of a road accident. Alec beloved son of the late Major General Eric MacKay and the late Mrs Therese MacKay and much loved step-son of Mrs Margaret (Madden MacKay). Donations may be sent to The Autistic Society. All enquiries to Eason Funeral Services, Newell, Sherborne.

DEATHS

MIEM - On November 16th in Hobart, Tasmania, Lorna Irene, beloved wife of late Leslie Coore Mein (Ret'd Major IA 4/12 FF Rgt RAF 39-45). Loved mother of Jennifer Cowie and Jill Hale.

MORRISON - Josephine (née Jefferson) passed suddenly and quietly away at Field House, St Breiade, Jersey on Saturday 9th December, 1995 aged 86 years. Wife of the late Reginald John (Jack) Morrison, mother of Angela, Godfrey, grandmother of Frances, James and Caroline, great-grandmother of Emma and Alexander, and step-mother of John Morrison and Michael Garratt. All enquiries please to H.W. Maitland & Son Ltd. Funeral Directors. Tel: 01534 37291.

NORFOLK - Lavinia, widow of Bernard 16th Duke, peacefully at Arundel Park on Sunday 10th December. Much loved mother and grandmother. Funeral family only, at St. Nicholas Parish Church, Arundel on Monday 18th December at 11.30 am. Family flowers only. Donations to Lavinia Norfolk House (Spastics Society) or Riding for the Disabled Association to be sent to The Dover, Pelling, Arundel, West Sussex. Service of Thanksgiving to be announced later.

PIRATIN - Philip, 10th December after a short illness aged 88. Funeral at Golders Green Crematorium, Friday 15th December 10.30 am. Donations to Shelter or Cancer Research.

PRESCOTT - John Richard Captain RN, died peacefully at home on Sunday 10th December, just short of his 73rd birthday. Beloved husband of Heather and adored by his family. Funeral Service St Peter's Chetnole, Monday 18th December 2 pm. Family flowers only. Donations, if wished, to Marie Curie Nurses c/o W.S. Bristor & Son, 100 Leathay Road, Sherborne. Tel. (01935) 812647.

DEATHS

REGNARD - On December 9th, M.J. Francis (Reggie) Regnard of Christchurch, Dorset. Beloved husband of Betty and father of Claud. Private funeral, no flowers please. Donation in lieu if desired to St Oswalds Hospice, Regent Avenue, Cosforth, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE5 1EE.

SANDERS - Christine, Suddenly at 22 Addison Avenue, Holland Park, W11, survived by her Father Major Rowland Sanders T.D. Cremation at West London Crematorium, Harrow Road, London W10 at 4.15 p.m. on Monday 18th December 1995. Memorial service on Thursday 25th January 1996 at 6.30 p.m. at St. James Church, Norlands, St. James Gardens, London W11. No flowers but donations, if desired, to St. James Norlands Restoration Fund c/o The Vicar at 96 Sister Road, London W11.

SYMONDS - Bridget peacefully at home at Llandinabo on 8th December 1995 in her 86th year. Very dearly loved wife of Frederick Michael for 59 years. No flowers but donations if desired for Llandinabo Church, C/o Dawe Bros., 115 Westfaling Street, Hereford.

TORRY - Alexander Edward (Alec) on December 4th 1995 suddenly, aged 84. A much loved brother and uncle and a Freeman of the City of London. Funeral Service at Holy Trinity Church, Springfield, Chelmsford on Tuesday 19th December at 12.15pm followed by cremation. Floral tributes may be sent to T. Pennack & Sons F/D 1-3 Maldon Road, Great Baddow, Chelmsford, Essex.

WETHERED - Vernon Dingwall B.Sc., Brother of Maud (Deceased) and of Audrey Wethered. Life Member of The British Society of Dowsers. Innovator and distinguished practitioner in Radiesthesia, Radionics and Homeopathy. Died on December 7th at Sutton Lodge Nursing Home, Weybridge, Surrey aged 95. Greatly loved by his many friends and family. Funeral Service takes place at 2 pm on Monday December 18th at St Mary's Church, Oatlands Avenue, Weybridge. All arrangements by Frederick W. Chitty Funeral Directors of Weybridge (01932) 842220.

IN MEMORIAM — WAR

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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

HOLDER - Pam, Paul and David wish to thank all relatives, friends, neighbours and colleagues for their comforting cards, letters, words and flowers received during their recent sudden bereavement. Grateful thanks to all at General Accident in Perth, London and York and also staff at Guys Hospital London. Special thanks to Rev. Bob Fyffe for his visits and comforting Service and to all who paid their last respects at St Johns, Princes Street and who gave so generously to the collection for the British Heart Foundation, £922.34 was collected. Thanks also to Mr Pennycook for his caring and understanding Funeral Arrangements.

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OBITUARIES

LAVINIA DUCHESS OF NORFOLK

Lavinia Duchess of Norfolk, LG, CBE, Lord Lieutenant of West Sussex, 1975-90, and widow of the 16th Duke of Norfolk, died at Arundel Park on December 10 aged 79. She was born at Kingston Hall, Nottingham, on March 22, 1916.

LAVINIA Duchess of Norfolk had a unique role at the 1953 Coronation. She took the part of the Queen at the rehearsals in Westminster Abbey, cast by her husband, the late Duke of Norfolk, who as Earl Marshal was in command of the ceremonies. The 1953 Coronation was different from all others. It was the first to be televised and television was comparatively new.

The Duke, who had run a previous coronation as well as royal weddings and funerals since he was a young man in his twenties, did things with great aplomb. Nothing was left to chance. However, he was fearful of television, knowing that any mistake would be magnified by the cameras and seen by millions around the world. So he decided that everything must be exhaustively rehearsed. Stopwatches timed every move. Precision was paramount. And, because of this, his wife became involved.

She already had experience of a coronation. When the Queen's parents were crowned in 1937 the Duchess held the canopy over the Queen. And it was later that year that she married the Duke of Norfolk.

The story goes within the family that she had first seen him a year before in his role as Earl Marshal at the State Opening of Parliament and had said to a friend: "He's the man I want to marry." The marriage at Brompton Oratory, Knightsbridge, shortly after the Coronation caused much interest. She was Protestant; he was Roman Catholic and referred to "as England's leading Roman Catholic layman" — though in fact there is no such title.

The Duchess enjoyed standing in for the Queen. She had an impish sense of fun. During the rehearsal period a woman friend telephoned one day to ask her to the races. The Duchess replied with mock seriousness: "Not that day ... I'm having my coronation again."

The rehearsals were heavy and solemn, lacking the interest of the real thing. The Duchess could see the funny side. At one rehearsal her husband became exasperated by the bishops and said in an aside, sufficiently loud to be overheard by the Archbishop of Canterbury: "If the bishops don't learn to walk in step we'll be here all night." During a break in proceedings the bishops slipped silently away to Westminster School for some practice — to return, according to the Duchess, "absolutely foot perfect".

The Duke was very fortunate in his wife. He could be gruff, taciturn, even dismissive. Her emollient touch with a charming smile was always there when needed. There was the incident at the Investiture of Prince Charles as Prince of Wales at Caernarvon in 1969 with many politicians about. The Duke never liked politicians, feeling that they beat about the bush and sometimes never got to the point at all.

As everybody waited for the start of the ceremonies George Thomas, the Secretary of State for Wales, asked the Duke if he would like a cup of tea. "Never touch the stuff," came the reply. "Perhaps a drink?", ventured the Welsh Secretary. The Duke looked at his watch. "Wrong time of day." In a flash the Duchess was engaging those around her in conversations, telling the Welsh how enormously impressed she and her husband were by the arrangements.

At the age of 21 she became mistress of Arundel Castle, home of the Norfolks for over a thousand years. It looks like a fairy-tale castle on top of a hill, with turrets and towers and the town of Arundel curling round beneath the moat, the drawbridge and the battlements. When the Duchess first moved in, it had old-fashioned kitchens, long dark corridors and 150 rooms, some of which had not been entered for years.

As things turned out she was only to live there for some twenty years. In 1959 the Duke, with four daughters, decided that he was not going to have a son and heir, and that the castle, with the dukedom, would pass elsewhere in the family. He built a fine Georgian-style house overlooking a great sweep of Sussex some distance away and called it Arundel Park. It was intended as a house for his wife after his death and, in the meanwhile, the plan was to let it.

As soon as it was finished, the Duchess and her daughters moved in. They liked it. The Duke followed. However, for the next 15 years till his death he would leave Arundel Park every morning after breakfast, go to the castle where he was born, and spend the day, returning to his family before dinner. He used to tell friends: "To me, Arundel is the castle."

The Duchess had laughing eyes, beautiful, very thick wavy hair and she maintained her girlish figure right into her seventies. She was a good organiser and had the determination to achieve most things she set out to do.

It was not until she was 59 that she fully blossomed as a person. That year, 1975, she became Lord Lieutenant of West Sussex, the first woman to be one of Her Majesty's county representatives in England.

The scope of her commitment was enormous, and with only two years in the job she led the county appeal for the Queen's Silver Jubilee Trust, and astonished fellow Lords Lieutenant by getting the biggest collection of any county. She worked out her own plan of campaign. Her main target were the schools. Since her own children's schooldays she had always had a good touch with schoolmasters and schoolmistresses. Her compliments were appropriate and the result of what they instantly recognised as solid homework. The children were out working like beavers on the collection.



She was born Lavinia Strutt at Kingston Hall, Nottingham, the home of her father, the 3rd Lord Belper. Her mother, the Hon Eva Bruce, was a daughter of the 2nd Lord Aberdare. She was not close to her daughter as she grew up, but influenced her with her own dedication to public service.

The Strutts were merchant princes, Derby spinners, who owed much of their fortune to a friendship and business association with the Arkwrights, founders and developers of the spinning frame that revolutionised the spinning industry. The original Lord Belper, like many others after the Industrial Revolution, got his title thanks to a mix of business acumen and political patronage. In 1852 he entered the Cabinet as Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster.

Lavinia Strutt was educated at Abbotts Hill, the independent girls' school in Hertfordshire; its fine buildings and spacious playing fields can be seen from the M25 motorway. Here her love of sports and a competitive urge giving her the will to win came to the fore. Hers was usually the rallying call in lacrosse matches and she played tennis for the school.

When she was six, her parents divorced and two years later her mother married Lord Dalmeny (he had earlier been married to the Duke of Westminster's daughter, Lady Dorothy Grosvenor), the eldest son of the 5th Earl of Rosebery (the former Prime Minister).

Soon afterwards he succeeded to his father's title. In his new stepdaughter he had a sports person after his own heart. He captained Surrey at cricket and in 1952 become president of the MCC. He was also master of the Whaddon Chase Hunt, the most fashionable pack in the London area, and he inherited a racing dynasty that kept on winning, including the Derby in 1939 with Blue Peter.

As a teenager she was riding Lord Rosebery's big thoroughbred horses, leading the Whaddon Chase field of top doctors, lawyers and City men over the stout hedges and deep ditches of this closely-fenced Buckinghamshire country. She was exceptional on a horse. She could ride anything. Soon, and still in her teens, she was winning point-to-point races on her stepfather's horses with her distinctive racing colours, a big Mickey Mouse on her jersey. That brought trouble; the Walt Disney Corporation claimed copyright and Mickey Mouse had to go.

In the 1920s and the 1930s social life revolved round country house weekend parties. These were on a scale never seen before and never to be revived so fully after the Second World War. The quality of Lavinia Strutt's tennis made her a welcome house guest, especially in Scotland where she and Lord John Hope (later Minister of Works under Harold Macmillan and now Lord Glendevon) made a formidable mixed doubles pair. Both were later to play at Wimbledon, but not together.

After she married in 1937 both she and her husband devoted themselves to racing. They bred their own horses, had them trained in the castle stables and raced them. In more than 50 years they had only three trainers in a sport noted for its disagreements between owners and trainers. John Dunlop, there for 25 years, was the longest-serving. For the last few years the Duchess's daughter, Lady Herries, took over training her mother's horses.

The late Duke finally achieved a lifetime ambition when the home-bred Ragstone won the 1974 Gold Cup at Royal Ascot, a year before his death. (He was the Queen's representative there for many years.) The Duchess, after his death, was not put off breeding, as so many others were, by the invasion of Middle East owners and their horses costing millions of pounds.

Two of her best home-breds were Moon Madness, winner of the St Leger at Doncaster in 1986, and Sheriff's Star, who came home with the Coronation Cup at Epsom in 1989. But the big sensation was the bay, Celtic Swing, bred by the Duchess though no longer owned by her, and trained by Lady Herries. Unbeaten in top races in 1994, he was rated by the handicappers as the best two-year-old to race in England in the past 17 years, and earlier this year won the French Derby.

The Duchess had what seemed an innate gift for targeting a particular horse to a particular race. Time after time she won races in this way that nobody expected her to win. Every Sunday there was a special ritual. She and her trainer would meet at her home, each horse and his progress would be fully discussed, and race entries made.

After the Duke of Norfolk's death in 1975 his widow developed and secured the future of the family's private cricket ground as a memorial to him. Since 1956 the Duke had invited the visiting overseas Test teams to have their opening match against his XI on this ground, modelled on The Oval, and founded by his father in 1895.

The tradition was continued by the Duchess with the visitors coming to play against her XI. And the Arundel Castle Cricket Foundation holds fresh hopes for the future. Its school has taught some 80,000 boys and girls from places with no facilities to play the game. They come in all weathers and enjoy the benefit of two £500,000 indoor practice sheds which John Paul Getty presented to the Duchess.

The extent of her official and charitable engagements was formidable, especially in her years as Lord Lieutenant of West Sussex, 1975-90. Most days after breakfast she would load her dogs in the station wagon and get in beside her chauffeur. As they criss-crossed Sussex, or went to engagements further afield, *The Sporting Life* spread out on her lap, the two would discuss the day's racing down to the most unimportant of selling plates. She did 600 or 700 engagements a year. When she had finished with the Lord Lieutenancy, she was actively engaged in almost one hundred charities at national and local level, some for more than thirty years.

In Sussex, people wondered if she ever took a holiday, although she did in fact like to go to the South of France for a summer holiday, and to play the tables at the casinos. Back home those with sharp eyes knew if she had won. She would return with a collection of splendid Parisian silk ties, which she gave to men who, as she put it, "gave time to West Sussex".

Those who contributed to West Sussex in any way were entertained at Arundel Park. Her husband, as head of the College of Arms, was the supreme arbiter on precedent for official functions, but she had her own way of doing things. She would sit on the floor and lay out her plan for dinner parties. Then a smile would cross her face as if she had found a winning move at chess. "These two don't exactly see eye to eye. I'm putting them together. They'll liven up that end of the table," she would say.

In 1971 the Queen appointed her a CBE, and in 1990 a Lady Companion of the Garter, the first non-royal woman to be honoured in this way.

She is survived by her four daughters.

ROBIN GANDY

Robin Gandy, mathematician and logician, died on November 20 aged 76. He was born on September 22, 1919.

WITH a keenly original intellect which could pierce the complexities of mathematical logic, Robin Gandy provided a decisive influence on the post-war development of this field of study. He earned a national and international reputation for his work on both generalised and higher type recursion theory, seeking to develop a theory of computation on infinite amounts, or types, of data.

His name was given to the Gandy Selection Operator, a theorem describing a theoretical mechanism for picking certain desired indices of higher type functions; the Gandy Theorem, on ascertaining when inductive definitions in a certain theory close up; and the Spector-Gandy Theorem which characterised certain sets of numbers defined in a higher order logic.

Gandy held a fellowship from 1969 onwards at Wolfson College, Oxford. Here, as both friend and mentor, he was to influence a new generation of mathematical logicians. He also, alongside John Shepherdson, helped to establish in 1978 the British Logic Colloquium — a national association aiming at the furtherance and dissemination of research in logic — and was its founding president. In recent years his study was on ultrafinitism which, broadly speaking, is the idea that only a finite quantity of numbers may be necessary for mathematics.

A well-known figure at academic conferences, Gandy worked in many areas of modern logic, often writing on philosophical issues. It was largely due to his influence that mathematical logic — a field in which he had started out almost alone — was developed into what it is today, a thriving area of study steadfastly established in the British Academy.

Robin Gandy was born in Peppard, Oxfordshire. He was educated at Abbotsholme and at King's College, Cambridge. After Part II of his Mathematical Tripos he joined the Army in the ranks, but was eventually commissioned into the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers as a radar specialist.

As an undergraduate he had met Alan Turing, well known for his contributions to the wartime code-breaking team. Turing's work on the foundations of the theory of computation in the 1930s had been seminal. He and Gandy were to meet up again in 1944 at Hanslope Park where Gandy had been sent to work on a speech decipherment system — christened "Delilah" at Gandy's suggestion. A lasting friendship developed and Gandy was later to edit Turing's papers. He was at work on the fourth and last volume at the time of his death.

In 1946 Gandy returned to Cambridge to complete an optional third part of his Tripos and gained a Senior Optime in 1946. He stayed on there to write a thesis on the foundations of mathematical physics (1952), at the same time becoming a lecturer in applied mathematics at Leicester.

In 1956 Gandy moved to Leeds, and more firmly into logic, helping to create a mathematics and philosophy course there, before being recruited by Max Newman (who had also recruited Turing) to Manchester in 1967 to take a chair in mathematics. Under Gandy's professorship the study of logic developed and in 1969 Manchester hosted the summer meeting of the Association for Symbolic Logic. During his time at Manchester, Gandy also published the series of papers in both generalised and higher type recursion theory which were to establish his name as a leader in his field.

In 1966 Wolfson College, Oxford, was founded, and three years later Gandy moved there to take up a university readership. Working alongside Michael Dummett, he helped to teach the newly established undergraduate degree in mathematics and philosophy. He inspired enormous interest from his students and research flourished. Whereas at Manchester he had tutored only three postgraduates, at Wolfson he found himself supervising almost thirty.

Gandy was renowned for his friendly guidance. "Make your thesis read more like a Dashiell Hammett novel," he used to say. He was a man who hated the pomposity and humbug so often prevalent in academe. A born raconteur with a commanding voice and a gently self-depreciating sense of humour, his parties held in his Wolfson penthouse were eagerly anticipated events. He was an excellent cook, especially renowned for his home-made ice-cream, and a dinner was never complete without Gandy producing his snuff box and passing it round.

Gandy always organised the annual Guy Fawkes party for his college, and it was appropriate that on his retirement in 1986 Wolfson feted him with a dinner and a magnificent firework display. His mathematical colleagues from around the world, and most of his students, honoured him with a special conference at Gregynog, Powys.

Robin Gandy was unmarried.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE Academy of Classical Homoeopathy wishes to clarify that it's course is NOT accredited by the Society of Homoeopaths and apologises for any confusion this has caused.

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Advertisements for the Court Page must be submitted two working days prior to publication and are accepted subject to confirmation.

ON THIS DAY

December 12, 1885

The illustrator of this edition of Charles Kingsley's popular fairy tale was Linley Sambourne (1844-1910). He was a contributor to Punch *for over 40 years and succeeded Sir John Tenniel as cartoonist-in-chief.*

Mr. Sambourne has been steadily making way in the public estimation ever since he began to draw for *Punch*, now several years ago. His talent is like that of no one else. As a political and social caricaturist he resembles neither Leech nor Tenniel, and he has nothing in common with the slighter though very admirable artists of past generations, such as "H.B." and Gilfray. He combines the most curious power of grotesque invention with an equal power of seizing a likeness: and over and above these gifts he has those of a first-rate draughtsman. All this is aided by the knowledge of the habits and forms of living creatures of all sorts, especially of sea creatures; so that in his caricatures we often find ourselves transported from Westminster to "the deep's untrampled floor," or to the regions which nothing more human has ever visited than the dredging-tackle of the *Challenger* ... It need not be said that in illustrating "The Water-Babies" Mr. Sambourne has found himself very much at home. Tom's adventures with the big brown trout, or with the lobster, suit him perfectly; he is excellent with the group of eels that are starting for the sea, and the foolish sun-fish that has lost its way finds in him a portrait-painter equal to the representation of utter fatuity. His single human figures are capital too: such as Mr. Grimes imprisoned in the chimney, little Ellie, and, best of all, Professors Huxley and Owen examining a bottled water-baby. We could have wished that he had not ignored some of the delightful scenes which follow upon Tom's discovery of his water kindred; but perhaps Mr. Sambourne wished to avoid direct competition with Sir Noel Paton. Altogether, the volume can be recommended as something more than a "Christmas book" of exceptional value.

* "The Water-Babies: a Fairy Tale for a Land-Baby." By Charles Kingsley. New edition, with 100 illustrations by Linley Sambourne. Macmillan and Co. 1885.

"THE WATER BABIES," ILLUSTRATED.

This new edition of Charles Kingsley's famous fairy-tale is likely to stand high in the favour of those who care for illustrated books, for it contains a hundred examples of the talent of one of the most inventive of our artists, Mr. Linley Sambourne. The wonder is that we have not had a fully illustrated edition of "The Water Babies" before. Sir Noel Paton's two charming plates in the original volume were an indication, and not more than an indication, of what might be done. Every page of Kingsley's story contains situations in which a sympathetic artist would revel: for, whether the story is successful or not as an artistic whole, it is beyond all doubt rich in fanciful detail. Kingsley was not a man of science but he had an extraordinary gift of observation and something of the true poetic fire. He loved "bird and man and beast"—especially bird and beast: and he knew enough of the strange creatures that dwell in the streams and the sea to make their life seem curiously real as he described it. Besides the human scenes of "The Water Babies," the scenes of stream-life in Vendale, of river-life in the broad Northumbrian estuary and of sea-life wherever Tom's later destiny carried him, are brimful of materials for an artist who, like Mr. Sambourne, is a naturalist as well.

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Manager of the month employs waiting tactics to scoop the £500 prize for November

Perseverance pays as Pav T turns its season around

The fates in football can be fickle. The great football brains plot and scheme and lay their plans for a season of success, but a duff decision by the referee, a dodgy tackle, a defender caught day-dreaming and you are a goal down and on the brink of waving goodbye to another three points in the Premiership.

Mr Thiruchelvarajah knows the tricks the fates can play. He selected his Interactive Team Football (ITF) team at the start of the season then sat back to watch them perform. Rather than get involved in the hurly-burly of the transfer market, he stuck with his side as they struggled through the opening couple of months. It was a good team, but not a great team: hardly championship contenders but never relegation candidates for all that.

And then came November. Suddenly his players — enigmatically named "Pav T" — began to turn it around. His selections were doing better and the teams they played for were quietly notching up good results in the Premiership. The points started to flood in. Through November he amassed 84 points and with them won the manager of the month award and its £500 winner's cheque.

At last his faith in Neville Southall (Everton), Denis Irwin (Manchester United), Sol Campbell (Tottenham Hotspur), Erland Johnsen (Chelsea), Keith Curle (Manchester City), David Howells (Tottenham Hotspur), Andrei Kanchelskis (Everton), Nicky Summerbee (Manchester City), Peter Beardsley (Newcastle), Peter Ndlovu (Coventry City) and Alex Ferguson (Manchester United) had paid off.

At the start of the season, Manchester City were not so much wavering as drowning at the bottom of the table, but their future looks a lot brighter with a few wins under their belt. Spurs, too, although not in the same dire straights as City, were hardly looking like title winners in the early stages but now they sit in fifth place in the Premiership. As for Newcastle, it was November last year when their campaign fell apart, but this year they seemed unbeatable.

However, November's successes are now only history. On Saturday, Mr Thiruchelvarajah's team managed a miserly 11 points thanks to Manchester City being hammered by Middlesbrough, Manchester United drawing with Sheffield Wednesday, Newcastle losing to Chelsea and Everton not playing.

The only ray of hope came from Ndlovu scoring in Coventry's 5-0 thrashing of Blackburn. Maybe Mr Thiruchelvarajah knows something we do not and maybe Coventry will carry Pav T up the table into the New Year.

THE TIMES ITF INTERACTIVE TEAM FOOTBALL

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

SKY sports

PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALLERS ASSOCIATION

If your team could be doing better, with your players lacking form and fitness, you can move into the transfer market to improve your fortunes. ITF has a transfer system which allows you to change up to two players each week. Which players you want to change are up to you, although you must replace the outgoing player with one from the same category (ie, a full back with a full back) and keep within your £35 million budget.

The ITF transfer system also allows you to adjust your team if one of your players is actually transferred out of the FA Carling Premiership. He would then no longer be eligible for ITF and would have to be replaced. Any overseas or Endsleigh Insurance League players who move into the Premiership during the season will become available for transfer.

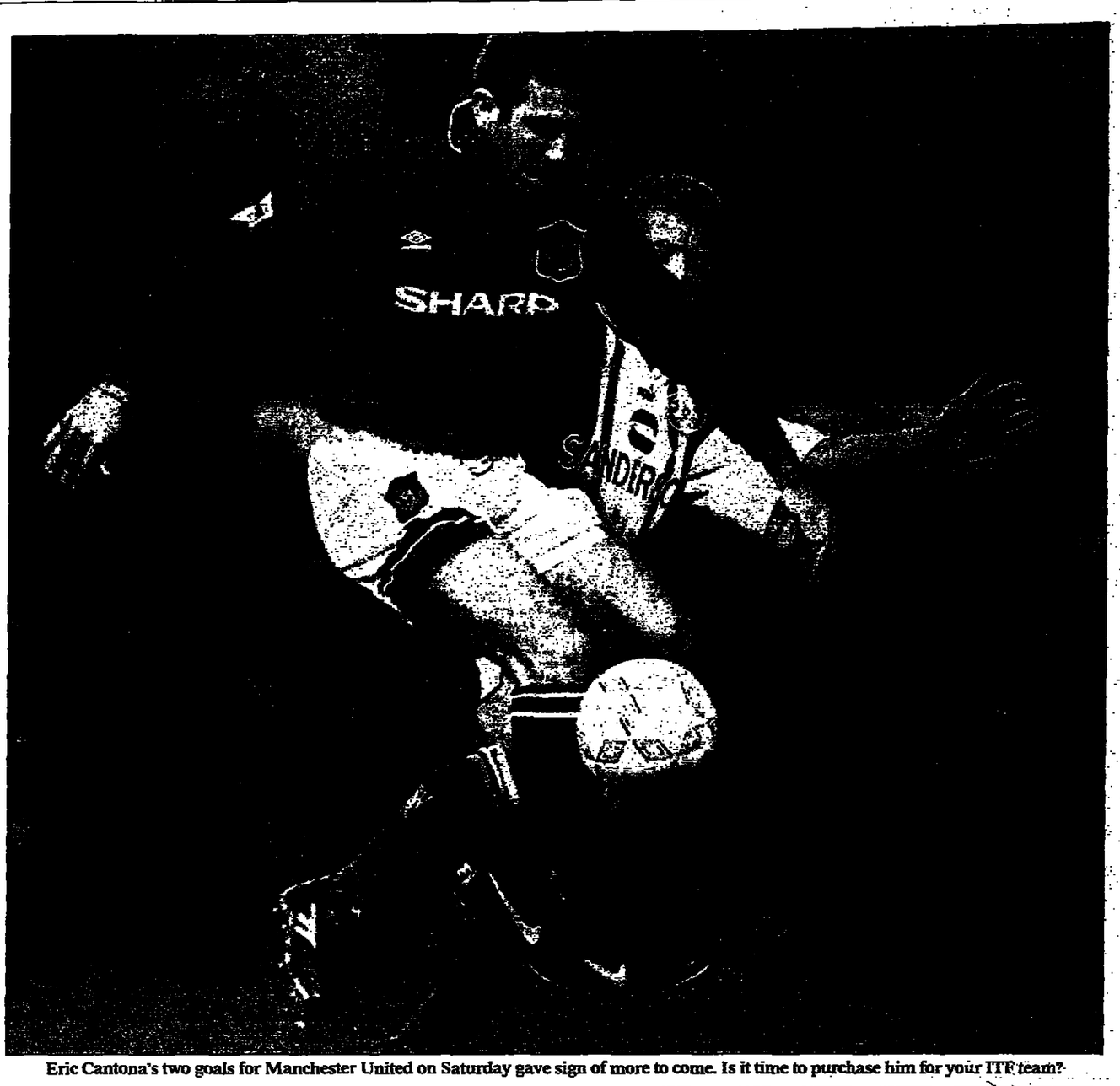
You can make transfers only by telephone. Using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone), call the **0891 333 331** line during the times given. Calls will be charged at 39 pence per minute cheap rate, 49 pence per minute at other times. If you are calling from the Republic of Ireland, you must call **004 499 020 0631** and you will be charged at 58p per minute.

If you are lagging behind the leading team selectors, the transfer system will be an appealing option to you in the chase for the £50,000 prize or the monthly £500 prizes.

With ITF, not only are you pitting your selectorial skills against other readers of *The Times*, you are also matching your wits against those in the know. Premiership players have entered sides of their own, and Steve Ogrizovic, of Coventry City, gives his selection on the opposite page. Like him, you may spend £8 million on Matthew Le Tissier — but will he do better than cheaper alternatives?

All matches in the Premiership and those in the FA Cup involving Premiership clubs count and your players and manager win and lose you points. With KBT Utd setting the early season pace, is it time for you to delve into the transfer market?

☐ ***All transfer queries regarding Interactive Team Football should be directed to 0171 757 7016, while all other inquiries can be made on 01582 488 122.***



Eric Cantona's two goals for Manchester United on Saturday gave sign of more to come. Is it time to purchase him for your ITF team?

THE WEEK'S TRANSFER DETAILS

OUT

Code	Player	Club	Value
41605	L Jenkinson	Coventry	£0.75m

CHANGE

Player	Old Club (Code)	New Club (Code)	Value
S Sellars	Newcastle (40606)	Bolton (42008)	£2.5m

HOW THE SCORING SYSTEM WORKS IN ITF

All FA Carling Premiership and FA Cup matches in the 1995-6 season count for points. Every goal and penalty counts

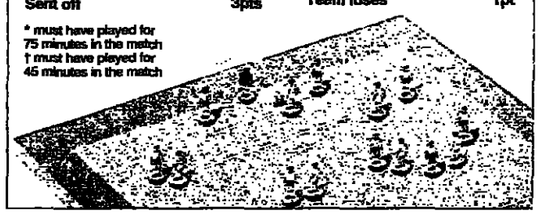
POINTS SCORED

Goalkeeper		**Striker**	
Keeps clean sheet*	4pts	Scores goal	2pts
Scores goal	3pts	**All players**	
Full back/Central defender		Appearance†	1pt
Keeps clean sheet*	3pts	**Manager**	
Scores goal	3pts	Team wins	3pts
Midfield player		Team draws	1pt
Keeps clean sheet*	1pt		
Scores goal	2pts		

POINTS DEDUCTED

Goalkeeper		Booked	1pt
Concedes goal	2pts	Concedes penalty	1pt
Full back/Central defender		Misses penalty	1pt
Concedes goal	1pt	Scores own goal	1pt
All players		**Manager**	
Sent off	3pts	Team loses	1pt

* must have played for 75 minutes in the match
† must have played for 45 minutes in the match



HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER IN ITF

Call 0891 333 331

"Calls cost (per minute) 39p cheap rate, 49p other times. Rep. 58p"

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You can make transfers only by telephone using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone). You will need your ten-digit selector's PIN, which must be tapped in and not spoken. Follow the simple instructions and use the players' five-digit codes.

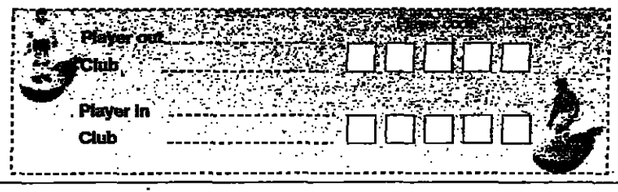
The line is open from 6am on Tuesday until 11am on Saturday; from 6pm on Saturday to 11am on Sunday and from 6pm on Sunday until 3pm on Monday. If there are midweek matches, the lines will also close at 3pm on the day of the match (or matches) and re-open the following day at 6am.

You may make up to (but no more than) two transfers a week. Each transfer is a separate transaction and you must sell a player before you can buy one.

A player transferred out of your team must be replaced by a player from the same category - for example a full back for a full back.

When purchasing a player you must ensure that the team value still falls within your £35 million budget (even if your next transfer would rectify any overspending) and does not contain more than two individuals (two players or one player and a manager) from the same club.

Your new player only starts to score points for you when his transfer is registered. The score of the player transferred out is taken at the time of transfer; he then ceases to score for you.



THE LEADING 250 SELECTORS IN INTERACTIVE TEAM FOOTBALL

Pos	Team	(Player's name)	Pts
1	Kewins Kickers	(K James)	332
2	Tommy Cockles XI	(Mr P Johnson)	300
3	Steves Lions 5	(S Brewer)	294
4	Gohils Gods 65	(Mr B Gohil)	293
5	Twighlight United	(P C Dilworth)	292
6	Steves Lions 7	(S Brewer)	291
6	They're Here	(Mr P Johnson)	291
6	Teddy Five	(Mr B Bear)	291
6	Rosies Supers	(P Sutton)	291
10	Gary Pearce	(G D Pearce)	289
10	Al's Alsorans	(A Hancock)	289
12	Tyes Blue Noses	(Mr S Tye)	288
13	Jones Boys Six	(M L Jones)	286
13	Nigels Right Foot	(Mr D Patel)	286
15	M I Blues	(P C Harden)	285
15	Jessicas Darlings 4	(Mr A Nadfson)	285
17	Barnet FC	(Mr P Johnson)	284
18	Jaynes Jugs	(K Hughes)	282
18	Harrington Inter	(Mr D Lovell)	282
18	Loxton's Longshots	(C Loxton)	282
21	Armarch	(A Matthewson)	281
21	OHME	(R Matthewson)	281
21	My Cat Bailey	(Mr P Johnson)	281
24	The Young Guns	(B Shepherd)	280
25	Transporter	(A Jenkinson)	279
25	Welldon Wanderers	(S Lee)	279
25	Nirvana FC	(Mr J Donovan)	279
28	Formby Flyers	(A Norton)	278
28	Madrid Knights	(R Jenkinson)	278
30	Steves Lions 8	(S Brewer)	277
30	Mac United	(T McCluskey)	277
30	Jesmond 1860	(S Murray)	277
30	Sunderland Stars	(K Brown)	277
30	Leponias	(Mr P Gregoriou)	277
30	Partisans	(E Donald)	277
36	Steves Lions 6	(S Brewer)	275
36	Burnwell United	(R Benham)	275
36	The Conjurers	(Mr D J Farmer)	275
36	Rosedale Rangers	(Mr D Green)	275
40	KP Fantasy Team 4	(Kr Patel)	274
41	Goal Diggers	(C Stacey)	273
41	Psychic TV	(T Vardy)	273
41	Jacobookie FC	(Mr A P Jacobucci)	273
41	Fergies Fury	(P Simpson)	273
45	Steves Lions 2	(S Brewer)	272
45	Glow In The Dark	(J Smith)	272
45	Phayco And Smither	(K Booth)	272
48	Percys Progress	(M Persich)	271
48	No Fear Utd	(G Saunders)	271
48	Beardsleys Hair	(Mr P Johnson)	271
51	Steves Lions 1	(S Brewer)	270
51	Grove Rovers	(T Townsend)	270
51	The Cake Eaters	(Mr S Hughes)	270
51	Wallace Wanderers	(M Haugh)	270
51	Barnet Buy Cole	(Mr P Johnson)	270
51	Razor's Raiders	(R A Knowles)	270
51	The UK Beavers	(J Elkins)	270
51	Francis Caldwell FC	(F Caldwell)	270
59	Netbusters	(C B Mitchell)	269
59	Brooksborough	(G Brooks)	269
59	The Black Knights	(R A Green)	269
59	Fair Fair Flapster	(C Woodward)	269
59	Mercer's Men	(D Bowfors)	269
59	Belfast Rangers	(Mr D Crowe)	269
65	Mean Machine	(Ramesh Patel)	268
65	Richies Rovers	(R Lovell)	268
65	Nookies Bears	(S Cozens)	268
65	———	(P Hanna)	268
65	Incetta	(B Daly)	268
65	Mikes Dream Team	(M Armstrong)	268

FIND OUT HOW YOUR TEAM IS DOING



"Calls cost (per minute) 39p cheap rate, 49p other times. Rep. 58p"

Call the ITF checkline on **0891 774 796**

Check your points total and your ranking. You need a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone) and your ten-digit selector's PIN. The line is open from noon today

65	Firefly City	(I Harrison)	268
65	Chip N' Dale XI	(Mrs E L Arrowsmith)	268
65	Daniel James Utd	(S Reynolds)	268
65	Apollo 2	(S Lazarids)	268
75	Mad XI	(Drodgers)	267
75	Only Can Saver	(M McKeown)	267
75	Hull Red Devils	(G Foster)	267
75	Scud 4	(P Hymas)	267
75	Robbo's Army	(P Callaghan)	267
75	Blaby Dynamo	(L Gilbert)	267
75	Long Live The Queen	(L Wilson)	267
75	Bassetts Bouncers	(J Hurd)	267
75	The Premier Raiders	(Miss C Ella)	267
75	Martinets 5	(T Martin)	267
85	Kims Kickers	(G Sutton)	266
85	Redcar	(G Thompson)	266
85	Howies Heroes	(Mr H West)	266
85	Goatee Softbeard	(C Armitage)	266
85	No Defence OK	(J B Portwood)	266
85	Carling XI	(P Parke)	266
85	Moneybags United	(P Ettridge)	266
85	Dwayns Dribblers	(A J Philcox)	266
85	FC Wombles	(A Williams)	266
85	Snort And Stubbs	(K Booth)	266
95	Scol Utd	(B Scollick)	265
95	Finglen Flyers	(E Ronald)	265
95	Wheres Bothem	(Mr P Johnson)	265
95	Henry Hilda	(Mr T Thompson)	265
95	Pig In A Poke	(Mr J Waters)	265
95	Watling Warriors	(P Shanks)	265
95	Here We Go	(Mr S Smith)	265
102	Doogs	(R Booth)	264
102	Melds Skill Monsters	(M Meldrum)	264
102	Ruefull Rabbits	(J Whateley)	264
102	Bon Accord	(I Kelson)	264
102	MGM	(M Morgan)	264
102	Morse The Pud	(Mr I Patrick)	264
102	———	(J Nichol)	264
102	Bohinen Forest	(S Bunn)	264
102	Shrew Voles	(H Brasher)	264
102	Novocastrians	(E Donald)	264
112	Flair	(E Bhatoo)	263
112	The Wee One Too	(A Nelson)	263
112	Quinton Forest	(J Baker)	263
112	Sharon's Buds	(Mr D Conroy)	263
112	Adams Man Or God 1	(R Pike)	263
112	Kingsland Rovers	(G Bell)	263
112	Oh Nicky Evans	(Mr P Johnson)	263
112	Gary's Heroes	(Gary Johhnson)	263
112	Strike FC	(A Koutsoudis)	263
112	Lucks Rovers 3	(N Bruter)	263
112	Synthetic Dozen	(Mr J Donaldson)	263
123	Hall Utd	(T Hall)	262
123	Aberspurs	(G Shand)	262
123	QPR Auctioneers A	(S Kempher)	262
123	Monster Monster	(M Parish)	262
123	Real Athletic	(Mrs G Keynes)	262
123	Death Or Glory Boys	(J T Luckman)	262
123	Sporting Siders	(K Doughty)	262
123	KBT Utd	(R Patterson)	262
131	Fudgels Foulers	(I Abu Hejleh)	261
131	The Doug Hutches	(M Stacey)	261
131	Essex Exiles	(M Cant)	261
131	Good Times United	(Mr T Stableford)	261
131	Gales Champions	(M Gale)	261
131	Semit ITF	(Mr F Amone)	261
131	Winters Wanderers	(Mr A F Winter)	261
131	Edprops United	(R Edmondson)	261
131	Adams Man Or God 4	(R Pike)	261
131	Terry's Tigers	(M Greensill)	261
131	Synthetic Dozen	(Mr J Donaldson)	261
131	Newcastle Browns 2	(B Maclennan)	261
131	Brown Montego	(H Davies)	261
144	Warren Wizards	(J Buckle)	260
144	———	(K Cochrane)	260
144	Rapid Overton	(A Overton)	260
144	The James Gang	(A Norton)	260
144	The Otters	(O Millar)	260
144	Cameron Athan	(Mr J R Reader)	260
144	I Love Esther	(Mr P Johnson)	260
144	Overhill Rovers	(Mr M James)	260
144	The Midfield	(R Radway)	260
153	M S Allstars	(M Stayman)	259
153	Good Work Fellas	(J Cook)	259
153	Outsiders	(C Mil-Homens)	259
153	Bazs Bruisers	(Mr B Harwood)	259
153	Green Wonders	(A Evans)	259
153	ADB Sign Shearer	(Mr P Johnson)	259
153	Roker Rovers	(D Milbourn)	259
153	Len's Utd	(N Laine)	259
153	Adam's Athletic	(A Moore)	259
162	Why Danny Dichio	(R James)	258
162	Andys Athletic	(A R Howse)	258
162	Mama Runus FC	(J Andreas)	258
162	Donnas Doughnuts	(D Burt)	258
166	Abenbury Villa	(J S Dhesi)	257
168	Norfolk N Good	(A Graver)	257
168	Street FC	(S Bartlett)	257
166	Dirty Boogers	(G Fallowfield)	257
166	Wolves Of Fenric	(S Adamson)	257
168	Mimose United	(M Armitstead)	257
168	Bora In Tashkent	(Mr D McMahon)	257
166	Radford Rovers	(A Radford)	257
166	Kings	(E M Young)	257
166	Tabletoppers XII	(D Marsh)	257
168	Herbert's Heroes	(N Pratelli)	257
166	PSV Betamix	(Lt A McCole)	257
168	PJB Rovers	(Mr P J Butler)	257
166	Fantasy Formbook	(Mr G Crutchley)	257
166	It's All Over	(D Welbourne)	257
166	Le Caprice	(Mr W H Ball)	257
182	Alan Sugars Huge Ego	(Neil Emmerson)	256
182	Blackpearls	(W Gayle)	256
182	Severn Legal	(M Moore)	256
182	———	(E Scott)	256
182	View Forth	(Mr J Taylor)	256
182	Bill And Ben United	(B Robinson)	256
182	Allstars	(Mr W P Davisworth)	256
182	Partizan Beograd I	(Mr D Stojkovic)	256
182	The McMenemys	(I Broadsmith)	256
182	Al Jouf Fox	(Mr J Reader)	256
182	Chris's Miracles	(C Sims)	256
182	Allstars XI	(D Dunn)	256
182	Boing Boing Baggy	(T Horne)	256
182	Poundswick Pupils	(J Plaiter)	256
182	Onceinabluemoon	(Mr D Clarke)	256
182	MH Rovers	(M Haji)	256
182	Wahtley Wanderers	(S D Whatley)	256
182	The Good Bad & Ugly	(K Booth)	256
182	OK United	(——)	256
182	Robs Redhot Rovers	(R Cook)	256
202	Turners Earners 2	(P Turner)	255
202	The Specialists	(P Leveridge)	255
202	County Pine A	(J Hunt)	255
202	Gujar Khan United	(F Mahmood)	255
202	Neil's Nobblers	(Mr B O'Sullivan)	255
202	———	(N Thompson)	255
202	St Remy Strikers	(G Dabnor)	255
202	Leppo Geckhoes	(H Underwood)	255
202	Dyfarnwyr Mall	(Dr Owen)	255
202	Orbital Brushes	(Mr S Brocorn)	255
202	Who Needs Mark	(N Persich)	255
202	Jones Boys Four	(L M Jones)	255
202	The Talent	(S Cole)	255
202	Rassell 3	(D Shuter)	255
202	Tiggers Two	(L Lindstrom)	255
202	Highbury Utd	(E Pryce)	255
202	Choppers Eleven	(Mr P Chambers)	255
202	Hells Angels	(H Thompson)	255
220	Wannabee Stars	(A P Harris)	254
220	Nobby One	(A Brown)	254
220	G Force	(W Gayle)	254
220	Garden FC	(K Wan)	254
220	50K Pickup	(N Griffin)	254
220	Lastoamil City	(P Harris)	254
220	Howells That	(S Howells)	254
220	Inter Red Dragon	(D Williams)	254
220	Windsor Plumbers	(K David)	254
220	The Rising Storm	(Mr D J Hornsby)	254
220	Keegandonowrong	(R J J Peak)	254
220	Col's Deft Team	(C Yates)	254
220	JSJ 16	(J Sutton-Jones)	254
220	Real Palace FC	(Mr M A Sadler)	254
220	Spud Utd	(R Grey)	254
220	Russell 1	(D Shuter)	254
220	Fantasy Formbook	(Mr G Crutchley)	254
220	Forman's Finest	(A Forman)	254
220	Clares Ducks	(T Collier)	254
239	Willington United	(W Liu)	253
239	Silktown Rovers	(S Cowan)	253
239	Aller Park Rovers FC	(A Davis)	253
239	———	(——)	253
239	Taylor Cockrels	(J Taylor)	253
239	Betley Reserves	(Mr M Wasik)	253
239	Mo's Magic XI	(Mrs M Nicholson)	253
239	Akintamaroff FC	(D Patten Jnr)	253
239	Sack A Ferguson	(Mrs E A Crossley)	253
239	Ayresome Rangers	(Mr G W Smith)	253
239	Clarkes Kickers	(G Clarke)	253
239	The Masked Turnips	(Mr D P Wardy)	253

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The players' overall and weekly scores and their values if you are considering the transfer option

GOALKEEPERS

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
10101	T Flowers	Blackburn Rovers	5.00	-9	-23
10102	B Mimms	Blackburn Rovers	1.00	0	-1
10201	P Schmeichel	Manchester United	5.00	0	+6
10301	M Crossley	Nottingham Forest	2.50	-1	-18
10302	T Wright	Nottingham Forest	1.00	0	0
10401	D James	Liverpool	3.50	+5	+14
10402	A Warner	Liverpool	0.25	0	0
10501	J Lukic	Leeds United	3.00	-1	0
10502	M Beeney	Leeds United	0.75	0	0
10601	P Srnicek	Newcastle United	3.00	-1	-1
10602	M Hooper	Newcastle United	1.00	0	0
10603	S Hislop	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+4
10701	I Walker	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	+5	-2
10702	E Thorstvedt	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00	0	0
10801	A Roberts	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	0	-7
10802	S Dykstra	Queens Park Rangers	1.00	0	0
10803	J Sommer	Queens Park Rangers	1.00	-1	-18
10901	H Segers	Wimbledon	1.50	0	0
10902	N Sullivan	Wimbledon	0.75	0	0
10903	P Heald	Wimbledon	1.50	-1	-36
11001	B Grobbelaar	Southampton	1.50	0	0
11002	D Beasant	Southampton	0.75	+5	-11
11101	D Kharine	Chelsea	2.50	+5	+12
11102	K Hitchcock	Chelsea	1.00	0	0
11201	D Seaman	Arsenal	5.00	+5	+31
11202	V Bartram	Arsenal	0.50	0	0
11301	K Pressman	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	-8	-17
11302	C Woods	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	0	0
11401	L Miklosko	West Ham United	2.50	0	-1
11402	L Sealey	West Ham United	0.50	0	0
11501	N Southall	Everton	2.50	0	+2
11502	J Kearton	Everton	0.75	0	0
11601	S Ogrizovic	Coventry City	1.50	-2	-15
11602	J Gould	Coventry City	0.75	0	0
11603	J Filan	Coventry City	1.50	0	-28
11701	A Coton	Manchester City	2.50	0	0
11702	A Dibble	Manchester City	2.50	0	0
11703	E Immel	Manchester City	2.00	-7	-11
11801	M Bosnich	Aston Villa	2.50	-1	+15
11802	N Spink	Aston Villa	1.00	0	0
11901	A Miller	Middlesbrough	2.00	0	+3
11902	G Walsh	Middlesbrough	0.75	-1	+19
12001	K Branagan	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	-1	-43
12002	A Davison	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	0	0

DEFENDERS

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
20101	H Berg	Blackburn Rovers	3.50	-4	-1
20102	G Le Saux	Blackburn Rovers	4.50	-4	+2
20103	J Kenna	Blackburn Rovers	3.50	0	+8
20201	D Irwin	Manchester United	4.50	0	+12
20202	P Parker	Manchester United	2.50	0	+6
20203	G Neville	Manchester United	2.50	-1	0
20204	P Neville	Manchester United	0.75	-1	+4
20301	S Pearce	Nottingham Forest	4.50	0	+8
20302	D Lyttle	Nottingham Forest	3.00	0	+5
20303	A Haaland	Nottingham Forest	1.00	-1	-9
20401	R Jones	Liverpool	3.00	+4	+20
20402	S Bjornebye	Liverpool	3.00	+4	+4
20403	S Harkness	Liverpool	0.75	+3	+22
20501	T Dorigo	Leeds United	3.50	0	+9
20502	G Kelly	Leeds United	3.00	0	+8
20503	N Worthington	Leeds United	1.50	0	-1
20601	J Beresford	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+17
20602	M Hottiger	Newcastle United	3.00	0	0
20603	W Barton	Newcastle United	3.00	0	+16
20701	D Austin	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	0	+4
20702	J Edinburgh	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	0	-3
20703	S Campbell	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	+4	+14
20704	D Kerslake	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00	0	0
20705	C Wilson	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	+4	0
20801	D Bardsley	Queens Park Rangers	2.00	0	-5
20802	R Brevett	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	0	-4
20803	N Zelic	Queens Park Rangers	2.50	0	-3
20901	A Kimble	Wimbledon	2.50	0	-2
20902	G Elkins	Wimbledon	1.50	0	-8
20903	K Cunningham	Wimbledon	1.50	0	-11
20904	R Joseph	Wimbledon	0.75	0	0
21001	J Dodd	Southampton	1.50	+4	+10
21002	F Benali	Southampton	1.00	+4	+6
21003	S Charlton	Southampton	1.00	+4	+4
21101	S Clarke	Chelsea	1.50	0	+3
21102	S Minto	Chelsea	1.50	0	+3
21103	G Hall	Chelsea	0.50	0	+9
21104	A Myers	Chelsea	0.50	+4	+13
21105	T Phelan	Chelsea	1.50	+4	-1
21106	D Petrescu	Chelsea	2.50	+7	+11
21201	L Dixon	Arsenal	3.00	+4	+29
21202	N Winterburn	Arsenal	3.00	+3	+31
21203	S Morrow	Arsenal	1.50	0	0
21302	I Nolan	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	-3	+5
21303	P Atherton	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	-4	-2
21401	J Dicks	West Ham United	3.50	0	+3
21402	T Breacker	West Ham United	3.00	0	-5
21403	K Brown	West Ham United	0.75	0	0
21404	K Rowland	West Ham United	0.75	0	+10
21501	G Ablett	Everton	2.50	0	+10
21502	E Barrett	Everton	2.50	0	+4
21503	M Jackson	Everton	1.50	0	+10
21504	P Holmes	Everton	0.50	0	-2
21601	D Burrows	Coventry City	1.50	0	0
21602	A Pickering	Coventry City	1.00	0	-3
21603	S Morgan	Coventry City	0.75	0	0
21604	M Hall	Coventry City	0.75	+1	-16
21702	R Edghill	Manchester City	1.50	0	-1
21703	D Brightwell	Manchester City	0.75	0	0
21704	J Foster	Manchester City	0.75	0	-1
21801	G Charles	Aston Villa	2.50	0	+22
21802	S Staunton	Aston Villa	4.50	0	+3
21803	A Wright	Aston Villa	2.50	0	+22
21804	P King	Aston Villa	0.50	0	0
21805	B Small	Aston Villa	0.50	0	0
21901	C Blackmore	Middlesbrough	0.75	0	0
21902	N Cox	Middlesbrough	1.00	0	+26
21903	C Morris	Middlesbrough	0.75	0	+24
21904	C Fleming	Middlesbrough	0.50	0	0
22001	G Bergsson	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	0	-13
22002	S Green	Bolton Wanderers	0.25	0	-11
22003	J Phillips	Bolton Wanderers	0.75	0	-14
22004	A Todd	Bolton Wanderers	0.75	0	-2
22005	S McAnespie	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	0	+1

MIDFIELD PLAYERS

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
30101	C Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	4.50	0	+9
30102	I Pearce	Blackburn Rovers	3.50	0	+3
30103	N Marker	Blackburn Rovers	0.50	-4	-4
30104	A Reed	Blackburn Rovers	0.75	0	0
30201	S Bruce	Manchester United	4.50	-2	+13
30202	G Pallister	Manchester United	4.50	0	+17
30203	D May	Manchester United	1.50	-1	-1
30301	C Cooper	Nottingham Forest	3.50	-1	+12
30302	S Chettle	Nottingham Forest	3.00	0	0
30401	P Babb	Liverpool	3.00	0	+17
30402	N Ruddock	Liverpool	3.50	0	+21
30403	J Scales	Liverpool	3.50	+4	+1
30404	M Wright	Liverpool	1.00	+4	+20
30405	D Matteo	Liverpool	0.75	0	+4
30501	D Wetherall	Leeds United	3.50	-1	+13
30502	C Palmer	Leeds United	3.00	0	+11
30503	J Pemberton	Leeds United	1.50	0	-1
30505	P Beesley	Leeds United	1.00	0	+1
30506	R Jobson	Leeds United	1.50	+3	+5
30601	P Albert	Newcastle United	4.00	0	+3
30602	S Howey	Newcastle United	3.00	-1	+18
30603	D Peacock	Newcastle United	3.00	-1	+15
30701	G Mabbutt	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	+4	+10
30702	C Calderwood	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50	+4	+9
30703	S Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.75	0	-1
30704	K Scott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.75	0	0
30705	J Cundy	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	0
41404	M Allen	West Ham United	2.00	0	+4
41405	I Bishop	West Ham United	1.50	0	+22
41406	D Gordon	West Ham United	1.00	0	0
41409	R Slater	West Ham United	1.00	0	+13
41410	S Lazarides	West Ham United	1.00	0	+2
41411	M Hughes	West Ham United	2.00	0	+12
41412	D Williamson	West Ham United	1.00	0	+3
41501	A Hinchcliffe	Everton	5.00	0	+12
41502	J Ebbrell	Everton	1.50	0	+6
41503	A Limpar	Everton	2.50	0	+19
41504	B Horne	Everton	1.50	0	+8
41505	V Samways	Everton	1.50	0	+5
41506	J Parkinson	Everton	1.00	0	+19
41508	A Grant	Everton	0.50	0	+2
41509	A Kanchelskis	Everton	6.00	0	+21
41601	P Cook	Coventry City	2.00	0	+2
41602	K Richardson	Coventry City	1.50	+3	+16
41603	G Strachan	Coventry City	1.50	0	+2
41605	L Jenkinson	Coventry City	0.75	0	0
41607	P Telfer	Coventry City	1.50	+3	+19
41608	M Isaias	Coventry City	3.00	0	+9
41609	C Batista	Coventry City	1.00	0	0
41610	J Salako	Coventry City	2.50	+5	+20
41701	G Flitcroft	Manchester City	2.50	0	+10
41702	P Beagrie	Manchester City	3.00	0	+3
41703	S Lomas	Manchester City	1.50	0	+17
41704	I Brightwell	Manchester City	1.50	+1	+9
41706	N Summerbee	Manchester City	1.50	+1	+19
41707	G Kinkladze	Manchester City	1.50	+3	+24
41801	A Townsend	Aston Villa	2.00	0	+11
41802	I Taylor	Aston Villa	2.00	0	+23
41803	G Southgate	Aston Villa	2.00	0	+21
41805	F Carr	Aston Villa	0.50	0	0
41806	M Draper	Aston Villa	2.50	+1	+27
41901	C Hignett	Middlesbrough	1.00	0	+25
41902	A Moore	Middlesbrough	2.00	0	0
41903	J Moreno	Middlesbrough	1.00	0	+1
41904	R Mustoe	Middlesbrough	0.75	0	+14
41905	J Pollock	Middlesbrough	2.00	0	+18
41906	B Robson	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	+1
41907	Juninho	Middlesbrough	5.00	+3	+8
42002	D Lee	Bolton Wanderers	2.50	0	+6
42003	A Thompson	Bolton Wanderers	2.50	0	+13
42004	R Sneekes	Bolton Wanderers	1.50	0	+5
42005	M Patterson	Bolton Wanderers	0.75	0	+8
42007	W Burnett	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	0	0

STRIKERS

Code	Name	Team	£m	Pts Wk	Pts Ov
40102	D Batty	Blackburn Rovers	1.50	+1	+17
40103	J Wilcox	Blackburn Rovers	5.00	0	0
40104	T Sherwood	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	+1	+19
40105	S Ripley	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	+1	+18
40107	P Warhurst	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	+1	+1
40109	M Holmes	Blackburn Rovers	1.00	0	+5
40110	L Bohinen	Blackburn Rovers	4.00	+1	+22
40111	W McKinlay	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	+1
40112	G Fenton	Blackburn Rovers	0.75	0	0
40201	R Giggs	Manchester United	5.50	0	+25
40202	R Keane	Manchester United	2.50	0	+8
40203	L Sharpe	Manchester United	3.00	+1	+15
40205	N Butt	Manchester United	2.00	0	+16
40206	D Beckham	Manchester United	0.75	0	+23
40207	S Davies	Manchester United	0.75	0	+1
40303	I Wosn	Nottingham Forest	3.00	0	+18
40304	S Stone	Nottingham Forest	4.00	+3	+24
40305	D Phillips	Nottingham Forest	2.00	0	+7
40306	S Gemmill	Nottingham Forest	2.00	+1	+12
40307	K Black	Nottingham Forest	1.00	0	0
40401	S McManaman	Liverpool	6.50	+2	+29
40402	J Redknapp	Liverpool	2.50	0	+21
40403	J Barnes	Liverpool	3.00	+2	+25
40404	P Stewart	Liverpool	1.50	0	0
40405	M Thomas	Liverpool	1.50	0	0
40406	M Walters	Liverpool	1.50	0	0
40407	N Clough	Liverpool	1.50	+2	+2
40409	M Kennedy	Liverpool	2.00	0	+1
40410	J Molby	Liverpool	1.50	0	0
40411	J McAteer	Liverpool	4.00	0	+11
40501	G McAllister	Leeds United	4.00	+1	+25
40502	G Speed	Leeds United	4.00	+1	+19
40503	R Wallace	Leeds United	2.50	0	+6
40504	D White	Leeds United	1.50	0	+5
40505	L Radebe	Leeds United	0.75	0	0
40506	M Tinkler	Leeds United	0.50	0	+3
40507	A Couzens	Leeds United	1.00	0	0
40601	R Lee	Newcastle United	4.50	+1	+31
40603	D Ginola	Newcastle United	4.50	0	+21
40604	K Gillespie	Newcastle United	4.00	+1	+27
40605	L Clark	Newcastle United	1.50	+1	+19
40606	S Sellars	Newcastle United	2.50	+1	+4
40607	S Watson	Newcastle United	1.50	0	+6
40608	C Holland	Newcastle United	0.75	0	0
40609	R Elliott	Newcastle United	0.75	0	0
40701	D Anderton	Tottenham Hotspur	6.50	0	+3
40702	D Howells	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	+1	+20
40703	J Dozzell	Tottenham Hotspur	0.75	+2	+13
40704	D Caskey	Tottenham Hotspur	0.75	0	0
40705	G McMahon	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50	0	+6
40706	I Dumitrescu	Tottenham Hotspur	4.00	0	+3
40707	R Fox	Tottenham Hotspur	6.00	+2	+18
40801	S Barker	Queens Park Rangers	2.50	0	+16
40802	I Holloway	Queens Park Rangers	2.50	+1	+11
40803	A Impey	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	+1	+18
40804	S Hodge	Queens Park Rangers	0.75	0	0
40805	T Sinclair	Queens Park Rangers	3.00	+1	+20
40807	S Osborne	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	0	+6
40808	G Goodridge	Queens Park Rangers	0.75	0	0
40901	V Jones	Wimbledon	2.00	0	+9
40902	R Earle	Wimbledon	2.50	+1	+25
40903	M Gayle	Wimbledon	1.50	0	+12
40904	O Leonhardsen	Wimbledon	2.50	+3	+19
40905	N Ardley	Wimbledon	0.75	0	0
40906	P Fear	Wimbledon	0.75	0	+3
41001	J Magilton	Southampton	3.00	+2	+21
41002	N Maddison	Southampton	2.00	0	+13
41003	N Heaney	Southampton	2.50	+2	+5
41005	D Hughes	Southampton	0.75	0	+6
41006	T Widdrington	Southampton	1.00	0	+15
41007	B Venison	Southampton	1.50	+2	+8
41101	D Wise	Chelsea	5.00	+2	+28
41102	R Gullitt	Chelsea	4.00	0	+17
41103	G Peacock	Chelsea	3.00	0	+12
41104	D Rocastle	Chelsea	1.50	0	+1
41105	N Spackman	Chelsea	0.75	0	+7
41106	C Burley	Chelsea	1.00	0	+12
41108	E Newton	Chelsea	0.75	+2	+18
41201	G Helder	Arsenal	4.00	0	+14
41202	P Merson	Arsenal	4.00	+1	+28
41204	R Parlour	Arsenal	2.00	0	+11
41205	E McGoldrick	Arsenal	1.00	0	0
41206	D Hillier	Arsenal	1.00	0	+2
41207	J Jensen	Arsenal	1.00	+2	+5
41208	D Platt	Arsenal	4.50	+2	+19
41301	J Sheridan	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	0	+7
41302	A Sinton	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00	0	+7
41303	C Waddle	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	+2	+19
41304	G Hyde	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	0	+8
41305	K Ingesson	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+5
41306	R Jones	Sheffield Wednesday	0.75	0	0
41307	M Williams	Sheffield Wednesday	1.00	0	+2
41308	L Briscoe	Sheffield Wednesday	0.75	+2	+6
41309	M Pembridge	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	0	+18
41401	J Moncur	West Ham United	3.00	0	+10
41402	D Hutchison	West Ham United	5.00	0	+11
50101	A Shearer	Blackburn Rovers	0.00	+1	+49
50102	C Sutton	Blackburn Rovers	7.00	+1	+7
50103	M Newell	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	0	+14
50104	K Gallacher	Blackburn Rovers	2.50	0	+1
50105	N G'mundsson	Blackburn Rovers	2.00	0	0
50201	E Cantona	Manchester United	7.50	+5	+16
50202	A Cole	Manchester United	7.00	+1	+18
50203	B McClair	Manchester United	3.00	+1	+14
50204	P Scholes	Manchester United	2.50	+1	+28
50301	B Roy	Nottingham Forest	6.00	0	+21
50302	K Campbell	Nottingham Forest	2.50	0	+5
50303	J Lee	Nottingham Forest	1.50	+1	+20
50304	G Bull	Nottingham Forest	0.75	0	0
50305	A Silenzi	Nottingham Forest	3.50	0	+1
50401	R Fowler	Liverpool	8.00	+1	+37
50402	S Collymore	Liverpool	7.50	+3	+17
50403	I Rush	Liverpool	3.00	0	+15
50501	A Yeboah	Leeds United	7.50	+1	+34
50502	B Deane	Leeds United	2.50	+1	+16
50503	P Masinga	Leeds United	1.50	0	+1
50504	N Whelan	Leeds United	1.50	0	+2
50506	T Brolin	Leeds United	5.00	+1	+2
50601	L Ferdinand	Newcastle United	8.00	+1	+48
50602	P Beardsley	Newcastle United	5.00	0	+20
50603	P Kitson	Newcastle United	2.50	0	+2
50604	M Allen	Newcastle United	0.50	0	0
50605	D Huckerby	Newcastle United	0.50	0	0
50701	E Sheringham	Tottenham Hotspur	6.00	+3	+37
50702	C Armstrong	Tottenham Hotspur	4.00	+1	+20
50704	R Rosenthal	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50	+1	+17
50801	K Gallen	Queens Park Rangers	4.50	+1	+11
50802	B Allen	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	0	-1
50803	D Dichio	Queens Park Rangers	1.50	0	+19
50805	M Hateley	Queens Park Rangers	2.00	+1	+2
50901	D Holdsworth	Wimbledon	4.00	0	+21
50902	J Goodman	Wimbledon	1.50	+1	+12
50903	M Harford	Wimbledon	1.00	+1	+7
50904	G Blissett	Wimbledon	0.75	0	0
50905	A Clarke	Wimbledon	0.75	0	+2
50906	E Ekoku	Wimbledon	2.50	0	+12
50907	J Euell	Wimbledon	1.50	0	0
51001	M Le Tissier	Southampton	8.00	0	+16
51002	N Shipperley	Southampton	2.50	+1	+23
51003	G Watson	Southampton	2.00	0	+14
51004	C Maskell	Southampton	0.75	0	0
51101	M Hughes	Chelsea	4.00	+1	+21
51102	M Stein	Chelsea	2.50	0	+6
51103	J Spencer	Chelsea	2.50	+1	+6
51104	P Furlong	Chelsea	2.50	0	+4
51201	I Wright	Arsenal	7.50	+1	+22
51202	D Bergkamp	Arsenal	7.50	0	+25
51203	J Hartson	Arsenal	4.00	+1	+7
51204	C Kiwomya	Arsenal	1.50	0	0
51206	P Dickov	Arsenal	0.75	0	+3
51301	D Hirst	Sheffield Wednesday	4.00	+4	+18
51302	M Bright	Sheffield Wednesday	2.50	+6	+23
51303	G Whittingham	Sheffield Wednesday	1.50	+5	+11
51304	O Donaldson	Sheffield Wednesday	0.50	0	+3
51305	M Degryse	Sheffield Wednesday	3.00	+4	+15
51401	T Cottee	West Ham United	4.50	0	+21
51403	M Boogers	West Ham United	2.00	0	-3
51404	I Dowie	West Ham United	0.75	0	+14
51501	D Ferguson	Everton	6.00	0	+1
51502	D Amokachi	Everton	2.00	0	+14
51503	P Rideout	Everton	3.00	0	+22
51504	G Stuart	Everton	2.00	0	+14
51601	D Dublin	Coventry City	4.50	+10	+31
51602	P Ndlovu	Coventry City	4.00	+4	+18
51605	N Lampitey	Coventry City	1.00	0	+3
51701	U Rosler	Manchester City	5.50	0	+16
51702	N Quinn	Manchester City	4.00	0	+9
51705	G Creaney	Manchester City	2.50	+1	+8
51801	S Milosevic	Aston Villa	4.00	+1	+24
51803	D Yorke	Aston Villa	3.00	+3	+31
51804	T Johnson	Aston Villa	2.50	0	+9
51901	J Fjortoft	Middlesbrough	5.00	+1	+18
51902	J Hendrie	Middlesbrough	1.50	0	0
51903	P Wilkinson	Middlesbrough	1.00	0	0
51904	N Barmby	Middlesbrough	4.00	+5	+26
52001	J McGinlay	Bolton Wanderers	3.00	+1	+16
52003	M Paatelainen	Bolton Wanderers	0.75	0	+6
52004	F De Freitas	Bolton Wanderers	0.75	+1	+18
60101	R Harford	Blackburn	5.00	-1	+13
60201	A Ferguson	Manchester United	4.00	+1	+33
60301	F Clark	Nottingham Forest	3.00	+1	+26
60401	R Evans	Liverpool	4.00	+3	+23
60501	H Wilkinson	Leeds United	3.00	+1	+20
60601	K Keegan	Newcastle United	4.00	-1	+37
60701	G Francis	Tottenham Hotspur	3.00	+3	+27
60801	R Wilkins	Queens Park Rangers	1.00	-1	+1
60901	J Kinnear	Wimbledon	1.00	+1	+5
61001	D Merrington	Southampton	1.50	+1	+9
61101	G Hoddle	Chelsea	2.50	+3	+19
61201	B Rioch	Arsenal	3.50	+1	+27
61301	D Pleat	Sheffield Wednesday	2.00	+4	+11
61401	H Redknapp	West Ham United	1.00	0	+14
61501	J Royle	Everton	2.00	0	+14
61601	R Atkinson	Coventry	1.50	+2	+3
61701	A Ball	Manchester City	1.50	-1	+5
61801	B Little	Aston Villa	2.50	+1	+25
61901	B Robson	Middlesbrough	1.00	+3	+27
62001	R McFarland	Bolton Wanderers	0.50	-1	-3



Ogrizovic is mean when it comes to conceding goals but generous at dispensing advice to other Coventry players

Planning for the future

Steve Ogrizovic, the Coventry goalkeeper, makes his ITF choice

I WAS hoping that my team would be doing well. It would look quite good on my CV when I am looking for a job after I stop playing: see, I spent millions and I achieved this. But, looking at the way my team is performing at the moment, I do not think there are going to be too many chairmen calling me up with offers. At this rate, when I retire they are going to have to shoot me like they do horses.

As the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA) representative at Coventry I got a group of the lads to enter at the start of the season. It was all a bit of fun and, to be honest, once the teams were picked, that was it. I actually thought I had selected Les Ferdinand, but I had not and that was a mistake. As a result, I thought I was doing better than I am.

I have been working with the PFA for about 10 years now. The club 'rep' acts as the link between the union and the players. We are an extra mouthpiece to spread the gospel. Most people think we are only there to help with contracts and transfers, but there is more to it than that. The PFA is very important for the players for a whole range of reasons. We can help with anything from mortgages to pensions to investments and planning for a life after football.

I know that when I retire I want to stay in football — it has been my life for 20 years. But I also know that there are far more people wanting to stay in the game than there are jobs for them — although I do not think picking teams is my strong point — not judging by my Interactive Team Football (ITF) selection.

I have no experience in management, but it seems to me the best tactic is to pick players who will score goals. You pick the strikers and four attacking midfielders and then mix and match with the defenders. Unfortunately, I have been a bit unlucky with injuries and teams not doing so well as I thought.

OGRIZOVIC'S TEAM

Goalkeeper:	N Southall	(Everton)	£2.5m
Full backs:	D Bardsley	(QPR)	£2m
	N Winterburn	(Arsenal)	£3m
Centre backs:	K Curle	(Man City)	£1.5m
	J Pemberton	(Leeds)	£1.5m
Midfielders:	A Impey	(QPR)	£1.5m
	D Platt	(Arsenal)	£4.5m
	M Draper	(Aston Villa)	£2.5m
	M Pembridge	(Sheff Wed)	£1.5m
Strikers:	M Le Tissier	(Southampton)	£8m
	P Beardsley	(Newcastle)	£5m
Manager:	R Atkinson	(Coventry)	£1.5m

I picked David Platt because he will always score goals from midfield, but I have been unlucky with him because he has been injured for a while. Andy Impey is another one — he does attack but when I have seen him play this season he has been playing at right back. In defence, I thought Pemberton was a good bet because I thought Leeds would keep a clean sheet more often than not, but they have had a bit of a dip in fortune.

sOme things have gone right. Nigel Winterburn is my top points scorer, which is no surprise. Arsenal are always tight at the back and are not going to give many goals away, so he has been earning points every week. Mark Draper has also been a good buy; he can score goals and make goals, so he is a steady points winner.

My strikers cost me £13 million between them — the biggest outlay in the team. I think Le Tissier will get better as the season goes on; after all, he has been consistent over the last few years, scoring 20 or so goals a season. I could do with him knocking a few more in at the moment, but I'm not too worried.

Then there is Peter Beardsley. He is still a world-class player. I thought Newcastle would do well this season, and Beardsley is clever, he knows the game and he will always score goals. At £5 million he is more than worth the money.

• Belfast: John H. Lunn Ltd. • Dublin: Weir & Son Ltd. • Chester: Boodle & Dunthorne • Leeds: Berry's.

NEWS

Regulator did not know of 'bribe'

■ The National Lottery watchdog denied that he had been told of an attempt to bribe Richard Branson to withdraw from the contest to run the competition.

Peter Davis, Director General of Oflot, also denied any *impropriety in accepting free flights* around America from a company with a stake in Camelot. Mr Davis was answering questions from members of the Commons Public Accounts Committee as the BBC prepared to broadcast Mr Branson's bribery allegations on *Panorama* ..... **Page 1**

Howard issues asylum white list

■ Michael Howard stepped up the Government's attack on bogus asylum seekers when he named the countries he plans to place on the so-called "white list" of nations deemed safe from *political persecution* ..... **Page 1**

Schools summit

The Education Secretary, Gillian Shephard, called the six teaching unions to a summit meeting on school security following the fatal stabbing of Phillip Lawrence, the London headmaster ..... **Pages 1, 5**

Holidays dropped

Tour operators have dropped one and a half million holidays from next summer's brochures to keep prices high and prevent customers from snapping up last-minute bargains ..... **Page 1**

Hero protection

The Crown Prosecution Service is expected to issue new guidelines to police warning them against rushing charges against "have a go heroes" *who hit out in self-defence* ..... **Page 2**

Classroom stabbing

A masked man burst into a Cleveland classroom and forced the *children to line up on their* knees before stabbing a girl to death, a court was told ..... **Page 3**

Conveyancing threat

A curb on conveyancing by cut-*price solicitors could double the* legal fees charged to house-buyers, the Consumers' Association *said* ..... **Page 6**

Campaigner sued

A Briton who exposed the use of electric lances by Japanese whalers is to be sued. Mark Votier may be fined about £60,000 for breach of contract ..... **Page 7**

Source of BSE

Unsterilised cattle feed is likely to have been the main reason for the outbreak of "mad cow" disease that has killed more than 155,000 animals and blighted British beef, scientists say ..... **Page 8**

Nato's peace mission

Joint Endeavour, Nato's peace mission in Bosnia which gets under way on Thursday, will involve troops from 32 countries, including 20,000 from the US and 22 from Luxembourg ..... **page 11**

Political pawns

Reports that two French pilots shot down over Bosnia are still alive have brought hope to the airmen's wives, but also the realisation that they may have become political pawns ..... **Page 12**

Italian support

Lamberto Dini, the Italian Prime Minister, distanced himself from *British scepticism over Europe's* single currency and underlined his support for French and German plans ..... **Page 13**

Key election

The people of San Jose, California, vote today in a congressional by-election which will reverberate across the continent ..... **Page 14**

Dissident trial

The trial of Wei Jingsheng, China's most famous dissident, will open tomorrow and foreign reporters may be permitted to attend the defence ..... **Page 15**

Lesson in diplomacy for the Princess

The Princess of Wales swept in to New York to accept a prize for charity work, talk to General Colin Powell, and pick up a few career tips from Henry Kissinger. The Princess, who has lobbied for a future in diplomacy, accepted her award at a black-tie dinner from Dr Kissinger, the former US Secretary of State and global embassy veteran ..... **Page 6**

TONY WHITE



Women from Brightlingsea, Essex, dressed as suffragettes, chained themselves outside Parliament to protest about live animal exports

BUSINESS

Nuclear decision: British Energy, the body that will own Nuclear Electric after privatisation, has abandoned plans to build two *nuclear stations, which would have* cost £4.87 billion ..... **Page 25**

Prices ease: *Input prices paid by industry for raw materials and fuel* eased again in October, keeping intact City hopes of a cut in interest rates ..... **Page 25**

Home income plans: Lawyers for investors who were mis-sold home income plans dismissed a proposed settlement by the West Bromwich *Building Society* ..... **Page 25**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 rose 22.1 to 3,652.1. The pound rose .63 cents to $1.5340 and .30 pfennigs to DM2.2156, lifting the sterling index from 82.5 to 82.8 ..... **Page 28**

SPORT

Football: Les Ferdinand and Alan Shearer, the two supreme goal-scoring athletes of English league football, will both play for their country at Wembley against Portugal tonight ..... **Page 48**

Rugby union: *The University match will draw 71,000 people to* Twickenham today, a world record for a club match and a statement of faith in the game's traditional values ..... **Page 46**

Cricket: The England tour manager, Raymond Illingworth, is keen to have Mark Ilott in the team for the *pivotal third Test, which begins in* Durban on Thursday ..... **Page 48**

Racing: The link between the vaccination for equine flu and lung disease is a myth, according to Edinburgh scientists ..... **Page 45**

ARTS

Nolde reassessed: The German Expressionist artist Emil Nolde, long shunned in Britain because of his Nazi connections, is the subject of a revealing retrospective at the Whitechapel Galley ..... **Page 35**

Northern lights: Ambitious plans have been announced to make 1996 the Year of Visual Art in the North of England ..... **Page 36**

Pigs might talk: The big new film of the week, *Babe*, required more than 40 pigs to be trained to act; then the live action was combined with advanced "animatronics" ..... **Page 37**

Dream casting: Sir Colin Davis conducting a superb performance of Britten's opera *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at the Barbican on Sunday ..... **Page 37**



TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ FASHION
Put it on and pull up the zip: Iain R. Webb on Jaeger's new little black dresses

■ INTERFACE
Your chance to win two £1,000 PCs, plus a year on the Net for 50 runners-up

Preview: Controversial zoo owner John Aspinall wants to return gorillas to the wild. *Gambling For Gorillas* (BBC1, 8pm) **Review:** Matthew Bond enjoys a parliamentary trip with Tony Benn ..... **Page 47**

Role of honour

With inspired leadership such as that of Philip Lawrence, schools can work wonders. But they cannot solve all the social problems of their communities ..... **Page 19**

Spin wimps

Few now expect the Tory Party to win the next election, however: so the new director of communications will hardly be blamed for its defeat. A prosperous future beckons, even for the man or woman who merely makes the result less bad ..... **Page 19**

Show trial

Western pressure might secure Wei Jingsheng a reprieve from execution; but little better can be expected for this brave and literate persecuted man ..... **Page 19**

JOHN REDWOOD

There is no point in our supporting the French if they take their inspiration or even their instructions from Berlin. Nor is there a lot of point in supporting a Prime Minister who has not prepared properly for the fight, and has now conceded the first EU demand ..... **Page 18**

LIBBY PURVES

It should be said that in the past few decades the idea of a school as beacon and lighthouse has been disastrously eroded. Schools are betrayed both by those who see them as soft, unjudging, refuges of mere "caring", and those who *judge them as businesses* ..... **Page 18**

MATTHEW PARRIS

It may have occured to poor Jeff Rooker, half way through his plea over the dreaded Jackal Loophole, that he was addressing the Jackal ..... **Page 2**

Hands-on approach: Young patients are flocking to the Osteopathic Centre for Children, where massaging of a head is claimed to relieve problems from cerebal palsy to bed wetting ..... **Page 16**

Confusing signals: Ruddy cheeks are not always a sign of good health. Just the opposite, says Dr Thomas Stuttaford ..... **Page 16**

All in the genes: Or is it? Nigella Lawson on why little girls play with dolls, while little boys prefer fire engines ..... **Page 17**

Learning experience: The training of judges was once considered by them to be an insult. Now they are going back to school ..... **Page 41**

Talking Basque: Looking at the surge in the region's economy, culture and politics ..... **Page 33**

THE PAPERS

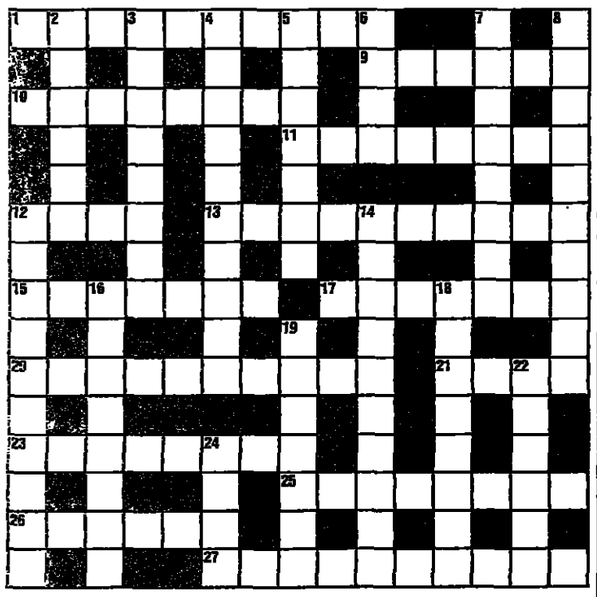
The President and the Republicans alike should renounce all thought of a tax cut until the budget is balanced or at any rate the deficit is neutralised, not just on paper but in fact — *Washington Post*

We have no policy of mutually assured destruction to govern our relations with countries like Libya, Iran, Iraq, and China. Or indeed guard us against instability in Russia — *Washington Times*

Lavinia Duchess of Norfolk, Lord Lieutenant of West Sussex, 1975-90, and widow of the 16th Duke of Norfolk; **Robin Gandy**, mathematician and logician ..... **Page 21**

Head's murder; schools policy; arts investment; rail delays ..... **Page 19**

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,036



ACROSS

1 Main conclusion of space mission (10).
9 Pass keys, drinks being kept inside (6).
10 Leader, possibly, with daughter serving apprenticeship (8).
11 Traps are visible in various directions (8).
12 Many in island wanted access to mine (4).
13 Advertiser's employee who mails accounts? (10).
15 Quarrel with cleaner, chucking article like a lout (7).
17 Sell excellent fish (7).
20 Player early in ground before start of test (10).
21 Constituency's country mansion (4).
23 Soldiers rejected by those people in charge of exercises (8).
25 Disjointed blockbuster is extremely odd in the middle (8).
26 Blokes endlessly dance (3-3).
27 *Remarkable new name in* disinfectant (10).

DOWN

2 Stop in America for a spell (6).
3 *Disturbed French actor turned up* in old set (8).
4 Commotion in port — a bear appears (10).
5 Well-organized leftist showing up *in Paris suburb* (7).
6 Head employed in one's school (4).
7 Musical work to repeat at random (8).
8 Monster finished crossing river *with ease* (3,7).
12 Vigorous exercises to include at flying displays (10).
14 Revised tour price on old island (6,4).
16 Sectarian's field featured in a news broadcast (8).
18 Reveal leader of demo lives nearby (8).
19 Genuine ungodliness about to overwhelm church (7).
22 About a day required to go over this land mass? (6).
24 Rise in duty demanded for gin (4).

Solution to Puzzle No 20.035

S	O	A	P	S	T	O	N	E		C	R	A	V	E
E		P		H		U		N		L		X		N
R	A	P	P	O	R	T		C	H	A	R	M	E	D
G		A		O		D		A		I		I		U
E	C	L	A	T		A	S	S	U	R	A	N	C	E
A				I		T		H		E		S		
N	O	M	I	N	E	E	S			S	T	U	D	
T	A	G		D		L		S		E		O		
S	I	G	N			C	A	S	T	I	R	O	N	
		N		R		T		K		R			C	
S	T	E	V	E	N	A	G	E		I	N	D	I	A
T		T		S		R		S		P		R		S
A	B	I	D	I	N	G		I	M	P	R	E	S	T
L		S		G		E		D		E		S		E
L	E	M	O	N		T	H	E	O	R	I	S	E	R

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Times Two Crossword, page 48

TIMES WEATHERCALL

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Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Glouc,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Heralds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times

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For the latest AA traffic/roadwork's information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code:

London & SE traffic, roadworks

Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736

National traffic and roadworks

National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times

HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: St Mary's, Isles of Scilly, 12C (54F); lowest day max: Anemore, Highland, 0C (32F); highest rainfall: Hunstanton, Norfolk, 0.01in, highest sunshine: Bognor Regis, West Sussex, 7.6hr

FORECAST

☐ **General:** most of England and Wales will have a dry but rather grey and misty day after the clearance of early frost and fog. A few brighter patches may develop later with a little sunshine in western counties.

Much of Scotland and Northern Ireland will have a cold start with patchy frost and fog. It will slowly brighten with some hazy sunshine, *but cloudy skies in northern Scot*land with persistent drizzle will edge south later.

☐ **London, Central N, Central S, SE, NE, E England, E Anglia, E, W Midlands:** rather cloudy and misty with a few fog patches. Wind light or moderate, northeast. Max 7C (45C).

☐ **Channel Isles, SW, NW England, Wales, Lake District, Isle of Man:** patchy frost and fog mostly lifting, some sunshine later. Wind light northeast, occasional moderate. Max 8C (46F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, Argyll:** patchy fog and frost slowly lifting, some bright spells, cloudy later with patchy drizzle. Wind light northerly. Max 7C (45F).

☐ **NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** starting cloudy with rain and drizzle but becoming drier later. Wind moderate westerly veering northwesterly. Max 8C (46F).

☐ **N Ireland:** patchy frost and fog slowly clearing, some sunshine, cloudy later. Wind light northerly. Max 8C (46F).

☐ **Outlook:** light rain and drizzle in the South will clea; otherwise in other parts it will be dry with variable amounts of cloud.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

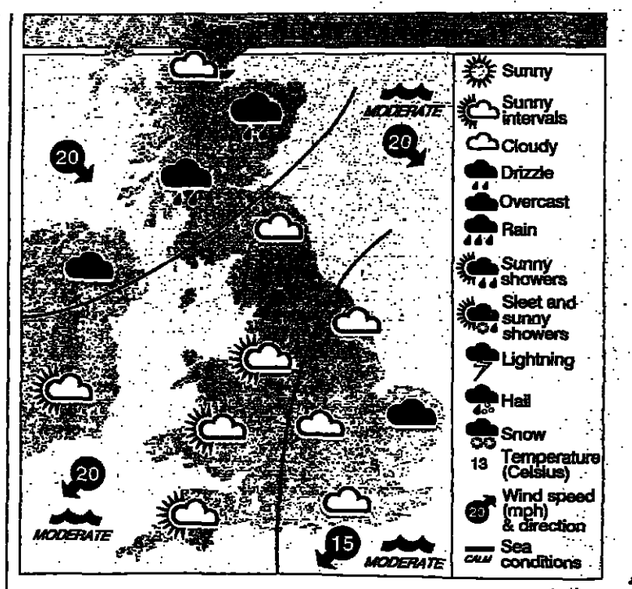
	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	1.6	-	3	37	b	London	4.9	-	8	46	c
Anglesey	2.5	-	9	48	s	Lowestoft	4.0	-	6	43	b
Aspatria	-	-	6	43	fg	Manchester	0.7	-	4	39	b
Avemore	-	-	0	32	fg	Margate	5.0	-	9	48	s
Belfast	2.0	-	10	50	b	Minehead	3.4	-	4	39	s
Birmingham	4.9	-	5	41	s	Morecambe	0.7	-	5	41	c
Bognor R	7.6	-	6	43	s	Newcastle	-	-	5	41	fg
Bournem'th	5.4	-	7	45	s	Newquay	2.7	-	9	48	b
Bristol	-	-	3	37	c	Norwich	X				
Buxton	0.2	-	2	36	fg	Nottingham	X				
Cardiff	3.2	-	4	39	b	Oxford	3.0	-	3	37	b
Colwyn Bay	3.5	-	9	48	s	Penzance	-	-	10	50	du
Cromer	X	-	8	46	s	Plymouth	3.5	-	7	45	b
Doncaster	X					Poole	6.0	-	7	45	s
Dumbar	X					Prestatyn	X	-	7	45	b
Eastbourne	6.1	-	8	46	s	Ross-o-wye	3.0	-	0	32	s
Edinburgh	X					Ryde	X				
Eskdalemuir	1.2	-	6	43	c	Salcombe	X				
Exmouth	-	-	8	43	c	Sandown	3.0	-	7	45	s
Falmouth	-	-	9	48	c	Saunth Snd	5.6	-	8	46	s
Fishguard	2.2	-	8	46	s	Scarboro'	-	-	7	45	du
Folkestone	4.6	-	7	45	c	Shanklin	X				
Glasgow	-	-	6	43	du	Shrewsbury	X				
Guernsey	5.3	-	10	50	s	Skegness	2.8	-	5	41	b
Hastings	5.0	-	7	45	s	Southend	X	0.01	6	43	s
Hayling I.	7.1	-	7	45	s	Southport	0.7	-	4	39	b
Herne Bay	X					Southsea	X				
Hove	4.5	-	8	46	b	St. Ives	X				
Hunstanton	3.1	0.01	5	41	fg	Stornoway	0.6	-	10	50	c
Ilfracombe	6.0	-	8	46	s	Swanage	-	-	7	45	c
Isle of Man	X					Teignmouth	-	-	7	45	c
Jersey	0.8	-	7	45	c	Tenby	X				
Kinloss	0.2	-	4	39	c	Tiree	1.4	-	10	50	b
Leeds	-	-	5	41	d	Torquay	-	-	7	45	c
Lerwick	X					Tynemouth	-	-	5	41	fg
Leuchars	X					Ventnor	0.2	-	6	43	c
Littlehmptn	6.7	-	7	45	s	West-s-mare	X				
Liverpool	0.5	-	5	41	c	Weymouth	4.4	-	6	43	s

ABROAD

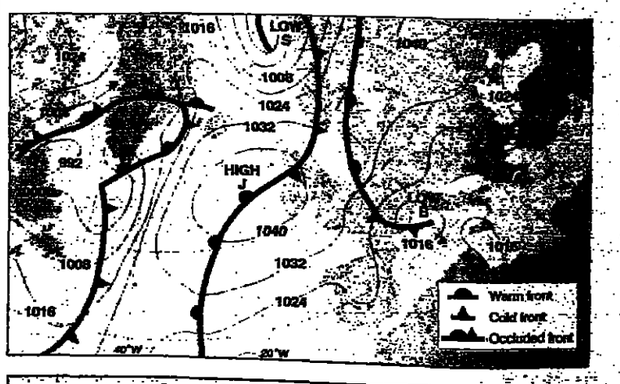
Ajaccio	16	61	s	Cologne	0	32	c	Luxor	19	66	f
Alcrotiri	14	57	f	Corfu	12	54	f	Madrid	10	50	f
Alex'dria	18	64	c	C'phagn	3	37	fg	Majorca	16	61	f
Algiers	19	66	f	Dublin	7	45	f	Malaga	18	64	f
Amst'dm	1	34	c	Dubrovnik	10	50	f	Malta	15	59	f
Athens	9	48	c	Faro	12	54	r	Melb'rne	15	59	r
B Aires	30	86	s	Florence	11	52	s	Mexico C	15	59	s
Bahrain	24	75	f	Frankfurt	-1	30	s	Miami	21	70	c
Bangkok	30	86	s	Funchal	18	64	c	Milan	9	48	s
Barbados	-	-	-	Geneva	1	34	c	Montreal	-10	14	-
Barcelona	15	59	f	Gibraltar	17	63	f	Moscow	-4	25	sn
Beirut	11	52	f	Helsinki	-1	30	s	Munich	-1	30	c
Belfast	8	46	f	Hong K	23	73	s	N Delhi	22	72	s
Belgrade	-1	30	c	Innsbruck	1	34	s	N York	-5	23	s
Berlin	2	36	d	Istanbul	5	41	c	Nairobi	25	77	c
Bermuda	23	73	f	Jeddah	26	79	s	Naples	14	57	c
Biarritz	12	54	s	Jo'burg	20	68	f	Nice	15	59	s
Borde'x	12	54	s	Karachi	-	-	-	Oslo	1	34	s
Brussels	-1	30	fg	L Angels	16	61	c	Paris	2	36	f
Budapst	-1	30	sn	L Palmas	21	70	s	Peking	9	48	s
Cairo	17	63	f	Le Touet	2	36	f	Perth	28	82	s
Cape Tn	31	88	s	Lisbon	14	57	f	Prague	0	32	r
Ch'church	25	77	-	Locarno	6	43	s	Reykjavik	2	36	f
Chicago	-12	10	s	Luxembg	2	36	f	Rhodes	12	54	s

Rio de J	26	79	f	Sydney	21	70	s				
Riyadh	23	73	s	Tangier	18	64	f				
Rome	12	54	r	Tel Aviv	11	52	f				
S Fr'sco	13	55	f	Tenerife	23	73	f				
Salzburg	-3	27	f	Tokyo	14	57	s				
Santiago	26	79	s	Tunis	18	64	f				
Sing'por	31	88	f	Valencia	11	52	f				
St'kholm	-1	34	c	Vanc'ver	8	46	r				
Strasb'rg	-1	30	c	Venice	9	48	s				
Sydney	21	70	s	Vienna	1	34	sn				
Tangier	18	64	f	Warsaw	1	34	c				
Tel Aviv	11	52	f	Wash'ton	-2	28	s				
Tenerife	23	73	f	Wel'ngton	19	66	-				
Tokyo	14	57	s	Zurich	-1	30	c				

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available



Changes to the chart below from noon: High J will drift east towards northern Britain and build slightly. Low S will move northeast and fill. *Low B will fill*



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	4:17	6.64	4:53	6.58	Leith	5:28	5.00	5:40	4.98
Aberdeen	4:16	3.87	4:21	3.96	Liverpool	1:49	8.47	2:02	8.43
Avonmouth	9:51	11.79	10:13	11.43	Lowestoft	-	-	0:42	2.26
Belfast	1:41	3.11	2:01	3.47	Margate	2:21	4.51	2:47	4.37
Cardiff	9.34	11.12	9.52	10.59	Milford Haven	8:59	6.20	9:21	5.89
Devonport	8.25	5.07	8:50	4.76	Newquay	7:59	6.01	8:18	5.72
Dover	1.39	6.26	1:48	6.03	Oban	8:20	3.71	8:48	3.44
Dublin	2:20	3.67	2:44	3.82	Penzance	7:53	4.67	8:09	4.25
Falmouth	7:53	4.67	8:09	4.25	Portland	7:27	5.09	7:47	4.84
Glasgow	3.50	4.07	4:00	4.57	Portsmouth	9:01	1.83	9:31	3.60
Harwich	2:16	3.75	2:42	3.72	Shoreham	2:00	4.46	2:07	4.06
Holyhead	1:02	5.00	1.15	5.14	Southampton	1:41	5.69	1:48	5.69
Hull	9:06	6.61	9:13	6.82	Swansea	1:28	4.26	1:42	4.27
Ilfracombe	8:36	8.30	9:01	7.99	Tees	9:04	8.42	9:25	8.07
King's Lynn	9:05	5.79	9:20	5.82	Tees	6:37	4.66	6:47	4.39
					Wilton-on-Nze	2:06	3.97	2:36	3.68

Crown copyright reserved All tide times are GMT

HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 7.57 am
Sun sets: 3.52 pm
Moon sets 10.51 am
Moon rises 8.28 pm

London 3.52 pm to 7.58 am
Bristol 4.02 pm to 8.07 am
Edinburgh 3.38 pm to 8.35 am
Manchester 3.49 pm to 8.17 am
Penzance 4.20 pm to 8.13 am

Last quarter December 15

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هكذا من الأصل



FEE FEVER 29

The mega-deal is back to swell City bank coffers



ARTS 35-37

Dick King-Smith's pigs make it big in Hollywood



SPORT 43-48

Ferdinand eager to make most of England chance

FOCUS ON THE BASQUE COUNTRY
Page 33

THE TIMES

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook — TUESDAY DECEMBER 12 1995



BARRY GREENWOOD

David Crossland, chairman, is looking for businesses to buy in Canada that will balance the seasonal nature of the group's British outlets

Prices preserve hopes of rate cut

BY JANET BUSH, ECONOMICS CORRESPONDENT

A FURTHER easing in industrial price pressures yesterday kept intact City hopes for a base-rate cut after tomorrow's monetary meeting.

Input prices — paid by industry for raw materials and fuel — fell 0.1 per cent in October, depressing the annual rate of inflation to 6.2 per cent from 7.7 per cent, according to the Central Statistical Office.

Output prices rose 0.2 per cent compared with September, which pushed the annual rate of inflation down slightly to 4.3 per cent from 4.4 per cent, better than the City had been expecting. The underlying measure, which strips out food, drink, tobacco and petrol prices, also decelerated to 4.6 per cent from 4.7 per cent in September.

Gilts and shares rallied on the news and a survey of City economists by Market News Service showed that 24 out of 29 polled believe that there will be a cut in base rates of between a quarter and half a point from the current 6.75 per cent over the next three months. The large element of doubt concerns timing, with uncertainty about whether Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, will push for a rate cut at tomorrow's meeting with Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England.

Mr George, while acknowledging that the economy has slowed, strongly suggested in his testimony to the Treasury Select Committee last week that he opposed a rate cut.

Many economists believe that Mr Clarke does not want to risk all on a showdown with Mr George at this stage and may prefer to wait until British inflation indicators are even more clearly pointing downwards. It would be easier to get away with a sustained drop in base rates, without undermining the pound, early next year.

Anatole Kaletsky, page 29

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100	3652.1	(+22.1)
Yield	3.95%	
FT-SE A All share	1781.53	(+8.15)
Nikkei	19225.78	(-60.19)
New York:		
Dow Jones	5178.90	(+22.04)*
S&P Composite	619.56	(+2.08)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5 11/16%*	(5 11/16%)
Long Bond	111 11/32*	(111 3/32)
Yield	6.05%*	(6.06%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	6 5/16%	(6 5/16%)
Life long gilt future (Dec)	110 13/16	(110 21/32)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.5355*	(1.5340)
London:		
$	1.5341	(1.5331)
DM	2.2157	(2.2192)
FFr	7.6485	(7.6425)
SFr	1.7935	(1.7923)
Yen	155.02	(155.08)
£ Index	82.8	(82.5)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.4435*	(1.4465)
FFr	4.9828*	(4.9855)
SFr	1.1690*	(1.1680)
Yen	101.05*	(101.25)
$ Index	94.1	(94.1)

Tokyo close Yen 101.06

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Feb)	$17.45	($17.40)

GOLD

London close	$389.45	($389.75)

* denotes midday trading price

Airtours on lookout to buy after profits fall

BY MARIANNE CURPHEY

AIRTOURS, the tour operator, is looking for further acquisitions in North America to reduce dependence on the highly seasonal UK package holiday market, its chairman said yesterday.

Disclosing a 22 per cent drop in pre-tax profits for the year to September 30, David Crossland said the fall from £75.8 million in 1994 to £59.1 million had been disappointing. The results included a £47 million goodwill write-off for acquisitions.

He refused to comment on speculation that Carnival Cruise Line of the US was interested in acquiring Airtours, but said he was looking to buy other businesses in Canada which were counter-seasonal to the UK.

Going Places, the high street travel agent, recorded a £7 million profit (£6.5 million).

Fully diluted earnings per share fell to 32.6p (44.4p), and the total dividend will be 14p (12p), payable on February 20.

Tempus, page 28

New nuclear power stations scrapped

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

BRITISH Energy, the company which will own Nuclear Electric and Scottish Nuclear following privatisation next year, announced yesterday that it was abandoning proposals to build two new nuclear power stations costing a total of £4.9 billion.

Robert Hawley, chief executive, said that British Energy would not be proceeding with the new power stations, earmarked for Sizewell in Suffolk and Hinkley Point in Somerset, because of current uncertainty about UK energy prices and the need to concentrate on pushing through privatisation.

The City had been concerned about the huge cost of the projects, which were unlikely to provide any investment return for up to ten years. Dr Hawley said: "At present the future of UK energy prices is insufficiently certain for British Energy to invest in new nuclear or indeed in any other form of new generation in the short term. Our current priority throughout the group is the succesful privatisation of British Energy next summer."

The Sizewell C project would have cost £3 billion, and provided around 14,000 construction jobs across the country, although provisional planning permission had been refused by Suffolk County Council and British Energy would have faced a lengthy public enquiry before being able to proceed.

The Hinkley C project already had planning permission, won after a lengthy public enquiry in 1990, and would have cost £1.9 billion and provided work for around 4,500.The news was greeted with delight by environmental campaigners who described the decision as the death of nuclear power. Patrick Green, senior energy campaigner for Friends of the Earth, said: "This is the final nail in the nuclear coffin and the end of the nuclear dream. No more nuclear power stations will be built in the UK."

John Battle, Labour's Shadow Energy Minister, blamed the Government's strategy on privatisation of the industry for forcing British Energy to abandon the projects. He said: "The unthought out rush to privatise has obviously put the pressure on and now the nuclear industry is being restructured without any strategic forethought."



Hawley: not proceeding

But the City had been anticipating the decision. Institutions were concerned about the cost of the project and overcapacity in the electricity generation market. Some analysts expect British Energy to expand into cheaper gas-powered generators rather than build new nuclear power stations after privatisation.

Earlier in the year the Government's White Paper on the nuclear industry concluded that new nuclear power stations were economically unviable once the subsidies the industry had enjoyed are removed after privatisation.

Privatisation was launched in May by Michael Heseltine, who promised electricity consumers a £20 rebate on their bills following the abolition of the fossil fuel levy paid to subsidise the nuclear industry.

The sell-off of British Energy is expected to raise up to £3 billion which will be used to help pay for the decommissioning costs of Brtiain's ageing Magnox reactors.

British Energy will inherit seven gas-cooled and one pressurised water reactor from Scottish Nuclear and Nuclear Electric and will supply almost 30 per cent of the country's electricity after privatisation. The company's remaining Magnox reactors will be transferred to a new company Magnox Electric which will face the task of decommissioning them.

Tempus, page 28

Subdued start to trading for Grid

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

TRADING in National Grid shares opened with a whimper rather than a bang yesterday as the expected rush to buy shares from FT-SE 100 tracker funds failed to materialise. The shares closed at 209p just 1p up on Friday's closing grey market price, after reaching a high of 211p.

North West Water and Scottish Power, two of the remaining five companies who have not yet put their Grid shares on the market, also said that they were launching a global book building exercise to dispose of their holdings, which further dampened the market's enthusiasm.

Shareholders who received Grid shares through their holdings in regional electricity companies also had the chance to work out how much tax they will have to pay. The shares are being taxed as dividends, although basic rate taxpayers will qualify for the new savings tax of 20 per cent.

Tempus, page 28

Liffe set to bring life to floor of Exchange

TRADING will return next year to the floor of the Stock Exchange, which has been silent since 1992 (Robert Miller writes).

The London Stock Exchange and the London International Financial Futures and Options Exchange (Liffe) have signed heads of agreement for Liffe to lease the former Stock Exchange trading floor, as well as office and accomodation space from the latter half of 1996 until the year 2004. The trading floor was last used by the London Traded Options Market, which merged with Liffe in March 1992.

Liffe, which last month announced plans to merge with the London Commodity Exchange, will rent nearly 75,000 square feet, making it one of the largest City lettings in recent months. As well as the trading floor, Liffe will lease one floor of the Stock Exchange's Tower head office, with an option for a second floor.

Daniel Hodson, chief executive of Liffe, said: "The leasing of the Stock Exchange trading floor and ancilliary space realises Liffe's medium-term premises strategy. There are a considerable number of developments at Liffe which will be implemented during 1996, which will impact on our need for trading floor space."

Michael Lawrence, Stock Exchange chief executive, said: "Letting these areas is part of the sound management of the Exchange's assets. This agreement with Liffe creates an ideal arrangement to make best use of the specialist nature of the accommodation."

Barings report imminent

BY ROBERT MILLER

THE City watchdog investigating the role of 12 former executives in the £860 million collapse of Barings is expected to complete its inquiry early in the New Year.

The Securities and Futures Authority (SFA), the regulator for brokers and futures dealers, had been expected to make an announcement on its findings next Easter, after the appeals procedure by those found guilty of rule breaches had been exhausted. Now, however, pressure from MPs on all sides of the House and public interest concerns about the crash of Barings mean that the SFA could make public its findings by the end of January. The SFA said last night: "We can neither confirm nor deny speculation that we will make an announcement about the Barings' investigation."

SFA investigators are understood to be looking at a wide range of possible charges against the 12 former directors. These include Peter Baring, the former chairman and his deputy Andrew Tuckey, who works as a consultant at Barings and is the only one of the 12 allowed to work in the securities industry while the investigation is in progress. Mr Tuckey is reported to be in line to receive a bonus-enhanced remuneration package worth up to £500,000 based on his key role in Lloyds Bank's proposed £6 billion takeover of TSB Group.

The most wide-sweeping charge that could be levelled against any of the 12 is a breach of the Securities and Investments Board's (SIB) principle rule on controlling internal affairs. SFA investigators are studying the role of those supervising Nick Leeson, the trader who was sentenced to 6½ years in prison by a Singapore court for his role in the collapse. Charges that could be brought include a failure to control the conduct of staff.

James Bax, Leeson's immediate boss at Barings Far East, could face a court case based on alleged rule breaches in Singapore. In London, the SFA is looking at the role of Ron Baker, Mary Walz, Tony Gamby and Peter Norris.

Pennington, page 27
Happy returns, page 29

Jersey legal move attracts accountancies

PRICE Waterhouse and Ernst & Young are expected to become the first UK accounting firms to become limited liability partnerships after a move by Jersey to introduce limited liability partnership legislation.

The proposed law in Jersey is based on similar legislation in the US state of Delaware under which major US accounting firms now operate.

Nick Land, senior partner of Ernst & Young, said: "It would appear to be a pretty simple thing to do and it keeps our partnership ethos intact."

Safe haven, page 26
Pennington, page 27

Society's offer rejected

BY ROBERT MILLER

LAWYERS acting for hundreds of elderly investors who were mis-sold home income plans have dismissed a proposed settlement by the West Bromwich Building Society as "total window dressing".

Richard Barnett, a partner of Barnett Sampson, the law firm that represents more than 300 elderly victims of the late Eighties and early Nineties, said the offer put forward yesterday by West Bromwich, and brokered by the Securities and Investments Board (SIB), the chief City watchdog, was "of no use to our clients".

The plans, which were linked to stock market investment bonds, have been banned by regulators, but the outstanding debts have continued to mount. The mortgage funding was supplied by several building societies, including Cheltenham & Gloucester, now part of Lloyds Bank, and National Counties.

The plans were sold by independent advisers who have gone into liquidation, triggering compensation payments totalling more than £45 million.

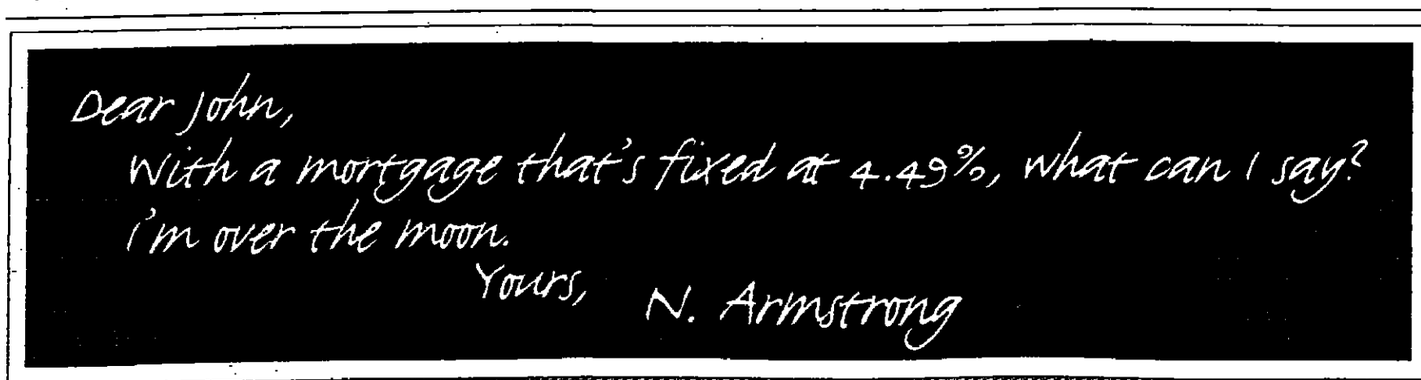
The Investors Compensation Scheme has paid out about £10 million to investors who bought plans through Fisher Prew-Smith using West Bromwich mortgages. The building societies have admitted supplying the funding, but denied responsibility for selling them.

West Bromwich's package of measures include the assurance that no investor would face repossession of their homes during their lifetime, although the property could be sold after they die, and that balances of less than £1,000 would be written off.

Mr Barnett said that the average outstanding debt of his clients was between £15,000 and £20,000. "What is so disappointing is that the SIB has been talking to the West Bromwich for the best part of a year and got absolutely nowhere other than the resurrection of the same old dustbin of measures," he said.

"We want to see elderly investors restored to the position they were in before they ever entered into the disastrous plans."

Pennington, page 27



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Catalogue group surges

Profits at Innovations Group, the home shopping company formerly known as Kleeneze Holdings, recovered to £9 million before tax from £128,000 in the year to August 31.

Profits were lifted by the sale of Kleeneze Homecare, the household goods arm, and VAT recovery of £4.8 million. Earnings per share rose to 41.7p (0.89p), but there is no interim payout.

EDP dips

Pre-tax profit at Electronic Data Processing, the computer software company, fell to £3.08 million (£4.12 million) in the year to September 30. The total dividend rises to 2.15p (2p), with a 1.483p final due on April 9.

Carclo ahead

Carclo Engineering, the maker of card clothing and cables, is raising its interim dividend to 3.44p a share (3.2p) after achieving profits of £8.2 million before tax (£6.7 million) in the half year to September 30.

Pelican soars

Pelican Group, the restaurant operator, announced pre-tax profit of £3 million (£1.4 million) for the six months to September 30. The interim payout, due on January 24, is 0.65p (0.5p).

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.17	2.01
Austria Sch	18.60	15.10
Belgium Fr	48.56	44.26
Canada $	2.222	2.062
Cyprus Cypf	0.742	0.667
Denmark Kr	9.19	8.39
Finland Mkk	7.21	6.56
France Fr	8.07	7.42
Germany Dm	2.37	2.16
Greece Dr	385.00	360.00
Hong Kong $	12.49	11.49
Ireland Pt	1.02	0.94
Israel Shk	5.1500	4.5000
Italy Lira	2548.00	2394.00
Japan Yen	169.20	153.20
Malta	0.592	0.537
Netherlds Gld	2.625	2.405
New Zealand $	2.52	2.30
Norway Kr	10.34	9.54
Portugal Esc	244.00	225.50
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.37
Spain Pta	196.00	183.00
Sweden Kr	10.88	10.08
Switzerland Fr	1.93	1.75
Turkey Lira	refer	81544.0
USA $	1.629	1.499

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

CHRIS LOUFRE



Michael Smith, chief executive of API Industries, yesterday said raw material prices are stabilising. API pre-tax profits rose to £8.35 million (£7 million) for the year. Total dividend rises to 10p from 9.08p, with a 5.93p final due February 12.

Jersey offers safe haven for accountants' assets

BY ROBERT BRUCE AND JON ASHWORTH

JERSEY is to introduce limited liability partnership legislation, seeking to attract leading UK accounting firms who strive to escape the threat of costly litigation.

Price Waterhouse and Ernst & Young, who encouraged Jersey to make the required legislative changes, are set to become the first firms to become limited liability partnerships. The proposed law in Jersey is based on similar legislation in the US state of Delaware under which all the major US accounting firms now operate.

Nick Land, senior partner of Ernst & Young, said limited liability partnerships "would merely protect the partners' personal assets. It doesn't protect the partnership's assets, the partnership itself or the individual partner involved in any litigation".

A surge in litigation, including the award last week of £105 million against Binder Hamlyn, has increased pressure on firms to protect partners. Ian Brindle, senior partner of Price Waterhouse, said that limiting liability of partners "protects them from Armageddon". Mr Land said that "the only impact will be to protect the personal assets of our partners in the event of catastrophic litigation".

Mr Land said: "It would appear to be a pretty simple thing to do and it keeps our partnership ethos intact." This was echoed by Mr Brindle. "You play around with a partnership at your peril," he said.

Until now, incorporation and the abandonment of the partnership system had been seen as the pragmatic answer to the litigation problem. The firm of KPMG announced in October that it would incorporate its audit business, and many firms had been expected to move towards some sort of incorporation in the coming year. But now that a Delaware-type solution is available, that is likely to change. KPMG says it will stick to its guns, but new options now open up for other firms. "We still see incorporation as possible," says Mr Land, "but we see the Jersey scheme as the preferred solution."

The attraction of a Jersey-based agreement is that the firms would remain fully UK-based, accountable to UK regulators and the English ICA as well as the legal system having the House of Lords as the final route of legal appeal. It is seen as providing the advantages without the stigma of going offshore.

The intention is that the proposals will be debated by the Jersey Parliament next spring, and, if approved, would go forward to be sanctioned by the Privy Council. If they cross that hurdle, the new law would be in operation in late 1996.

Pennington, page 27

Microsoft shares hit by NBC talk

MICROSOFT shares fell nearly a dollar to $93.6 in New York yesterday on reports that it is planning to spend $4 billion on a 49 per cent stake in NBC, the television network owned by General Electric (Richard Thomson writes). Conflicting reports, however, said that the computer software group was planning to invest $100 million in a joint venture with NBC to create a 24-hour cable news service. NBC already supplies content to Microsoft's on-line news service. GE has made no secret of looking for potential investors in its TV network. Microsoft would not comment on either report. "We talk to a lot of people all the time," a spokeswoman said. However, Bill Gates, Microsoft's chairman, is known to be close to Jack Welch, GE's chairman, and Robert Wright, chairman of NBC. He held meetings with Mr Wright earlier this year.

Cash call plan at Owen & Robinson

BY SARAH BAGNALL

MORRIS DWEK, a former chairman of Owen & Robinson, is said to be seeking institutional shareholder support for a £6 million rights issue that would result in a relisting of the retailer's shares.

The company plans to use the proceeds to buy out Philip Green, the flamboyant former head of Amber Day, the discount clothing chain renamed WEW. Mr Green holds 16 per cent of the company's equity and £6 million of its debt.

Negotiations with Mr Green to buy his debt — at a discount — and his shareholding are said to be at an advanced stage. Mr Green acquired the debt at a discount from TSB in July but the size of the discount was not disclosed.

At the same time, he acquired the shareholding from Hill Samuel, TSB's merchant banking subsidiary. A week earlier, the retailer's shares had been suspended at 16p after the company gave warning that it was suffering from cashflow difficulties.

Mr Dwek, who owns 16 per cent of the O&R equity, is said to have joined forces with Rodney East and Keith Miles, the former chief executive and finance director of Etam, to form a management team.

Several institutional shareholders are thought to have already given their support to the plan. Guinness Mahon is the merchant bank advising on the fundraising and Charles Stanley is the broker. If the rights issue goes ahead and Mr Green is bought out, O&R will emerge with no gearing.

The company axed its loss-making jewellery chain in April but in July was forced to suspend the shares when the £2 million that it had set aside to cover the closure costs proved insufficient.

Heavy lease obligations proved a severe financial drain on resources and the lack of cash began to cause problems for Foothold, the group's profitable sportswear business. In an attempt to rescue the group, Mr Green put the jewellery business in voluntary liquidation and the parent company and Foothold into administration.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Dale chairman of rival to Littlewoods

BARRY DALE, the former chief executive at Littlewoods, has emerged as chairman of a consortium of companies planning to launch a home shopping rival to the pools and retail group. The news comes days after Mr Dale had a £1.1 billion takeover approach rebuffed by the Moores family who own Littlewoods. The shareholders voted by four to one to reject the advance made by Mr Dale or any other potential bidder.

Mr Dale, who was sacked from Littlewoods in March and is taking legal action for wrongful dismissal, was approached in the summer to head the initiative, which will be called the World Prize Club. It comprises more than a dozen manufacturers of a wide range of products. The business is expected to be launched nationally in September.

Mercury trust buy-back

MERCURY European Privatisation Investment Trust, whose half-time dividend will stay at 0.60p, is to seek approval from shareholders and warrant holders for a share buy-back scheme to reduce the discount on which its ordinary shares trade and increase their underlying net asset value. The trust wants to buy, for cancellation, up to 86 million of its own ordinary shares and to issue up to £86 million worth of preference shares to finance the buy-back.

BET in Securicor swap

BET, the business services group, is swapping its manned guarding business, Shorrock Guards, for Securicor Alarms, Securicor's electronic security business. In addition, BET will transfer Shorrock's existing cash balance of £7.4 million to Securicor and make a further cash payment of £2.3 million. Securicor said it would integrate Shorrock Guards with Securicor Guarding to become the second-largest manned security guarding enterprise in the UK. Tempus, page 28

Greene King advances

GREENE KING, the East Anglian brewer whose brands include IPA and Abbot Ale, achieved a 13 per cent rise in first-half profits and said trading continued to be satisfactory. In the half year to October 15, pre-tax profits rose to £11.05 million (£9.8 million), lifting earnings to 19.1p a share (17.5p). The interim dividend, due February 2, is 4.5p (4.1p). Shares were up 4p to 633p. Profits from tenanted trading rose 5 per cent, while retail trading profits lifted 14 per cent.

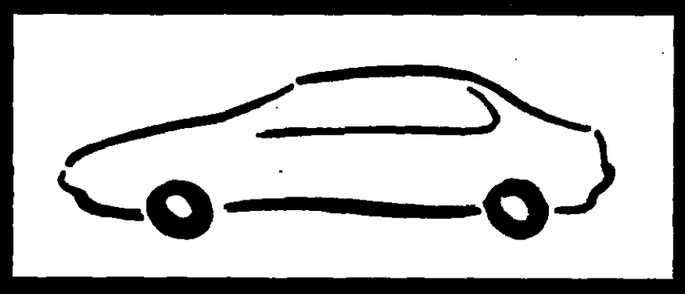
Foster's bids for Mildara

FOSTER'S BREWING GROUP has spent almost half the proceeds from its sale of Courage to Scottish & Newcastle on a A$482 million (£231 million) bid for Mildara Blass, one of Australia's leading wine makers. The group, which raised A$980 million from the Courage sale four months ago, is offering A$7.75 a share for the wine group whose brands include Wolf Blass, Yellowglen and Jamieson's Rum.

Johnson & Firth boost

JOHNSON & FIRTH BROWN, the specialist engineering group, has made a strong recovery, reporting profits of £5.8 million before tax for the year to September 30, compared with losses of £4.4 million in the previous 12 months. Earnings were 2.9p a share, against losses of 3.6p previously. There is a final dividend of 0.7p a share, due March 1, making a total of 1p (nil). The company proposes to change its name to Firth Rixson.

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هكذا من الأصل

☐ Accountants flee offshore ☐ Christmas cheer for the City ☐ Cold comfort from the SIB

Liability within limits

☐ UNLIMITED liability is a great discipline in principle. It becomes a burden unintended by Parliament when lawyers start suing in billions and target supposedly deep pockets regardless of the extent of their blame. The status of big professional firms had to change. But how? A touch of lateral thinking at Price Waterhouse, egged on by Ernst & Young, looks like providing the first satisfactory answer.

Jersey, ever keen to bolster its status in financial services, did not need asking twice to develop a form of limited liability partnership as in Delaware in the US and already common on the Continent. If the proposed law goes through in a year's time — and there seems little reason for the States parliament or the Privy Council to demur — the rest of the Big Six other than KPMG, along with top solicitors and architects will surely line up to re-register in Jersey.

Indeed, others broadly within the UK legal system will kick themselves for not thinking of it first. A more independent Scotland would surely have leapt at the chance of fortifying its partnership law and its financial centre in a way that would have avoided the inevitable, though misguided, charge that accountants are fleeing offshore to avoid their responsibilities.

The sheer complexity of its partnerships drove KPMG to try to protect partners via a company for high-profile audits. KPMG Audit Ltd is about to sign up clients from the partnerships, so the firm aims to stick with what already looks a second-best solution, albeit one available now under English law.

Limited liability partnerships would not solve auditors' legal problems. As PW's Ian Brindle notes, they only protect against Armageddon, which roughly translates as the £230,000 a time facing Binder Hamlym partners if last week's £105 million damages judgment stands. Individual partners would still be personally liable for their own negligence. The firm's assets would also be at stake, and clients can make sure these are not conveniently shrunk.

Removing the fear that hundreds of partners in a firm might lose their houses should change the psychology of the poker game between litigants and professional firms. But the origins of the intended flight offshore lie in the "joint and several liability" lawsuit. This leaves any party to a damages suit liable for the full amount regardless of the degree of their liability. America is now almost sure to bring in proportionate liability and if the Law Commission is sensible, Britain eventually will too.

When the rules are fair, accountants should be called much more rigorously to account when they display weak-mindedness and low standards.

Bonuses, bids and bandits

☐ THE bonus season, for investment bankers, is approaching. This is the annual event that City dealmakers, a normally garrulous bunch, are a shade bashful about. Merchant banks, for the most part, like to retain a certain mystique and too much publicity about precisely who scoops what out of the kitty when the oranges come up tends to jar with the old masters, the heavy cutlery and the faded carpets.



This year the Masters of the Universe are in luck. Not only are the slot machines — known as corporate finance departments — registering win lines but rude headlines about City pay have, for the most part, been kept at bay. Why have merchant bankers not suffered their annual villification? The answer is that 1995 was the year competition reared in the bonus stakes. Utility chiefs started to cash in their share options, an exercise that proved all the more lucrative as a result of takeover mania in the electricity sector. Lucrative for the utility chiefs, lucrative for the City's corporate finance departments. But it was the former who provided new grist for the rude headline mill. There is nothing new, after all, about the City's practice of charging generous fees.

But it is the fees that feed the bonuses and industry's urge to merge, on both sides of the Atlantic, will shortly find reflection in bonuses sharply up on 1994 but below those paid in 1993.

It is no secret on Wall Street that Goldman Sachs has enjoyed an excellent year and the firm, on course for profits of $1.4 billion, has already informed employees — excluding partners — that 1995's bonus will equate to 20 per cent of salary compared with 8 per cent last year and 30 per cent in 1993. Morgan Stanley is expected to celebrate in style but, by way of contrast, PaineWebber is reputed to have experienced tough trading as has Salomon Bros. Meanwhile, Barings and Daiwa remain the stuff of headlines, rude or otherwise.

Pondering home truths

☐ SOME of the best deals are done behind closed doors and then proclaimed to the world. Yesterday's announcement that the Securities and Investments Board, the chief City watchdog, and West Bromwich Building Society, had put together a deal to "help" elderly investors who were mis-sold home income plans was not one of them.

The regulator said the agreement that elderly investors will not be repossessed in their lifetime, although the house could be forfeited after they die, was "the best outcome achievable under our powers". That says it all. Home income plans linked to unsuitable stock market investment bonds have been banned by the regulators since the early 1990s. If the SIB had wider ranging powers as the recent report by the Commons Select Committee suggested and a brief to regulate lending as well as investments, then a satisfactory outcome to the home income plan problem might have been reached long ago.

The only part of the regulatory system or the financial services sector to emerge with any credit in this whole sorry saga is the Investors Compensation Scheme. The ICS, whose approach is legal rather than altruistic, has received opinion that it is entitled to pursue those building societies which supplied the funding for the plans. The ICS wants to restore investors' homes to them with all debts written off. Until that day those who supplied the funding, those who sold the plans and those who regulated them should ponder how they would react if one of their elderly relatives had lived with the threat of losing their home for years and even now fear that it will be lost when they die.

Allders shares knocked by short-term warning

By Sarah Bagnall

ALLDERS, the duty free and department store group, disappointed the City yesterday by warning shareholders not to expect any significant short-term growth in profits.

Harvey Lipsith, chief executive, said: "The message is of short-term caution but medium-term optimism." The bleak statement prompted analysts to cut their profit forecasts for the year to September next year, and the shares fell 20p to 169p — an all-time low. Allders floated at 170p in October 1993.

Allders has completed a year of rapid growth after taking advantage of opportunities to expand. Yesterday, Mr Lipsith revealed a switch in emphasis from expansion to consolidation. "We are taking a breather from the investment programme and are looking more closely at what we are doing in the business. We may have been suffering from a little bit of indigestion from the expansion."

He revealed a fall in pre-tax profits, from £25.5 million to £23.5 million, in the year to September 30. Turnover rose 13 per cent, to £829 million. Profits were reduced by £5.9 million of costs associated with opening new outlets, though the amount was mainly offset by a £4.8 million uniform business rate (UBR) refund. The UBR rebate was responsible for lifting the group's department stores operating profits, from £13.2 million to £15.3 million, while start-up costs dragged down the duty-free shop profits, from £13.5 million to £11.6 million.

Reflecting the growth of the business, both parts of the group reported increased sales. Department store sales rose 4.5 per cent and underlying sales rose 2.5 per cent as a result of a reasonable first half followed by a weak second half. Mr Lipsith said there had been some improvement in September but that that had come too late to show in the results.

The benefits of a recent refurbishment programme are beginning to feed through in increased sales but the group gave warning that any gains will have to be made against a backdrop of weak demand and upward pressure on costs. "It would be unwise to expect these conditions to change significantly in the short-term," said Mr Lipsith.

The board was also cautious about Allders International, the duty-free business that reported a 19 per cent rise in sales. The group said the business faced risks as well as opportunities.

The dividend was lifted from 4.5p to 4.6p, making a total of 7p, up from 6.7p last time. The dividend, due on February 22, is being paid out of earnings of 15.4p a share, down from 20.6p last time.

Tempus, page 28

Hogg lands new role at Domecq

SIR Christopher Hogg has emerged as the next chairman of Allied Domecq, the drinks company. He will succeed Michael Jackaman, who retires next April (Martin Barrow writes).

Last week, Sir Christopher, 59, said he would retire as non-executive chairman of Courtaulds, the chemicals company, in July 1996. He is also chairman of Reuters Holdings and is a non-executive director of SmithKline Beecham and the Bank of England. He was appointed a non-executive director of Allied Domecq last June.

Mr Jackaman, 60, was appointed chairman of Allied Domecq in 1991. He has held a number of senior positions, notably in wines and spirits, and he played a leading role in the purchase of Hiram Walker in 1987.

Kenwood boosted by Italian sales

By Sarah Bagnall

ACQUISITIONS in Italy helped Kenwood Appliances lift pre-tax profits 24 per cent to £7.4 million in the six months to September 30.

Tim Beech, managing director of the kitchen equipment group, said the increase in profits "included a difficult first half year's trading in the UK compensated by an encouraging performance from Ariete and Mizushi".

Ariete and Mizushi — the group's Italian businesses — were acquired in November 1994.

Sales in the United Kingdom slipped 7 per cent to £20.3 million as the hot weather affected sales of food mixers.

The advance in profits was achieved on the back of a 44 per cent leap in turnover to £87.2 million. Mr Beech reiterated that the group's results, particularly in the United Kingdom, would be weighted more towards the second-half than in previous years. The change is due to the timing of new product launches.

He said trading in the second half had started well, although retailers have placed their Christmas orders later than in previous years. He added that the group had a number of new product launches planned which should help lift sales.

The shares fell 2p to 229p — a far cry from the flotation price of 285p when they were floated in 1992.

The interim dividend, due February 23, is being held at 3.25p and is payable out of earnings of 11.3p, up from 11.2p.

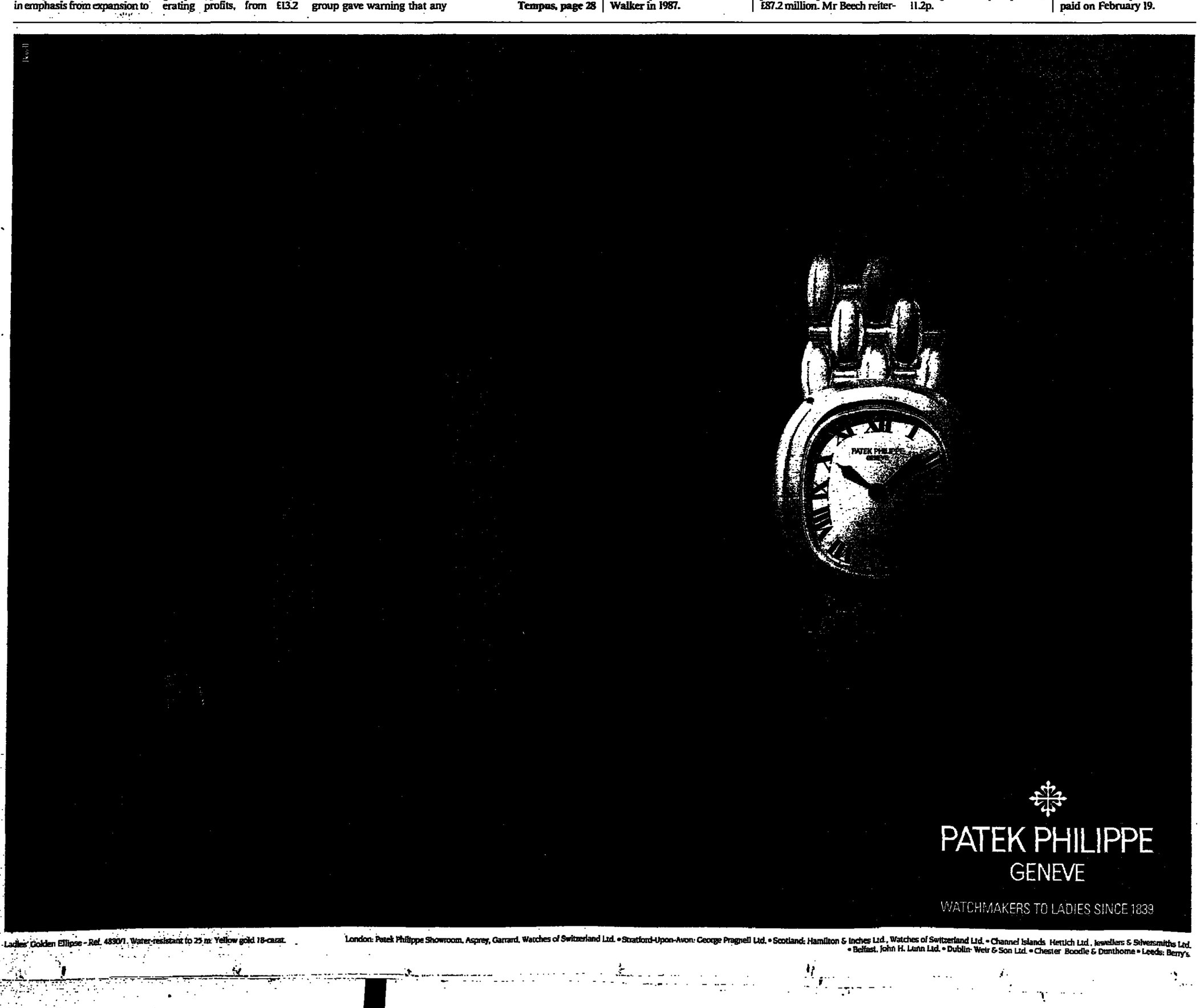
Profits fall to £9m at Firstbus

FIRSTBUS, the public transport company, suffered a 24 per cent drop in first-half profits to £9 million after it was hit by large restructuring and merger charges (Alasdair Murray writes).

The company, which was formed by the merger of Badgerline and GRT bus groups, wrote off £1.6 million for restructuring charges and £3.6 million for merger charges. It said that restructuring charges for the second half would be greater.

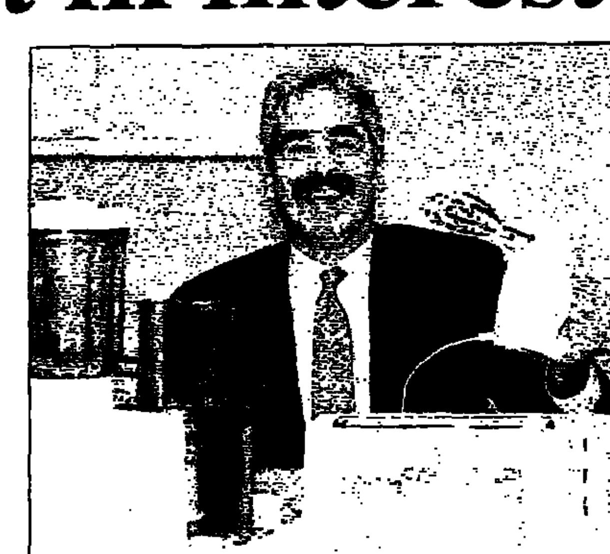
Turnover increased by 16 per cent to £174 million while operating profits rose 23 per cent to £19.4 million. The company also increased its margins from 10.5 per cent to 11.1 per cent.

The share price closed down 1p at 143p. The half-year dividend is 1.6p and will be paid on February 19.



STOCK MARKET  MICHAEL CLARK

Shares rise on hopes of a cut in interest rates


Tim Beech, chief executive, expects a boost at Kenwood

WILL he cut interest rates, or won't he? It is a question that the market has posed a lot in recent weeks and may be why it is looking forward to tommorrow's monthly meeting between Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, and Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, with more than just passing interest.

Last week, Eddie George made clear his objections to another cut in interest rates. He is more worried about the economy than he has been for some time and will tell the Chancellor so.

The stock market was happy to forget about his gloomy comments yesterday as share prices went some way to wiping out last week's 50-point fall, cheered by better than expected factory gate numbers. Brokers said this provided further evidence that the economy had slowed down enough to prompt a further cut in rates.

This combined with a positive opening rise in the Dow Jones industrial average on Wall Street enabled the FT-SE 100 index to close a shade below its best of the day, with a rise of 22.1 points at 3,652.1. London's underlying performance was even better after taking into account that ex-dividends were equivalent to a seven-point fall in the index.

Heavy turnover was recorded in the **National Grid** as official trading in its shares began. By the close of business, more than 233 million had changed hands, but the price retreated ½p to 208½p.

Brokers said institutional demand had been blunted by a book-building exercise carried out in 181 million National Grid shares by UBS and Kleinwort Benson on behalf of North West Water and Scottish Power.

There has been much criticism of the bookbuilding system, but Kleinwort and UBS were able to complete the exercise by 3.30pm at an average price of 208p.

But there was little sign of the expected demand from institutional tracker funds for National Grid. The shares have been traded for the best part of a month on the unofficial grey market. Before flotation it was owned by the 12 regional electricity companies.

The heavy turnover in the National Grid helped to boost total market turnover to 818 million shares.

Analysts have returned from their round-the-world trip with **Vodafone** in good heart. The price rose 4p to 229p after a welter of buy recommendations were published by the likes of Merrill Lynch, Société Générale Strauss Turnbull, BZW and NatWest Securities. Another broker, Henderson Crosthwaite, was already bullish before the trip started. It expects the group's loss-making operations in South Africa, Australia, Hong Kong and Greece to turn round quickly and make a substantial contribution to profits.

Henderson estimates that Vodafone should be able to translate a loss of £99 million in the year to March 1996, into a profit of £250 million by 1999.

There was a sigh of relief from brokers after **Airtours**, Britain's second-biggest package tour operator, weighed in with better than expected half-year figures. The shares jumped 22p to 358p.

After eight years of continuous growth, pre-tax profits fell from £75.8 million to £59.1 million. But in the wake of a profit warning in August, they were in line with expectations. Brokers had feared a worse final outcome. **Allders**, however, saw its share price drop 21p to 168p as brokers downgraded their full-year forecasts after a disappointing performance from the group's overseas operations. Pre-tax profits were down £2 million at £23.5 million with the long, hot summer and cost of opening new airport shops also taking their toll. In spite of the setback, the dividend was increased. Charterhouse Tilney, the broker, said it had downgraded its forecast for the year by £3 million to a virtually unchanged £23 million.

A buy recommendation from Crédit Lyonnais, the broker, left APV with a rise of 5p at 75p. It says the current rating means that the market is ignoring any progress achieved and that the shares are "very attractive". It expects the group to return to the black with pre-tax profits of £26 million (18.2 million loss).

Brokers reported only modest support in first-time dealings for **Gearhouse**, which supplies equipment and staging services for the conference and exhibition markets. Placed at 200p, the shares opened at 203p where they traded for the rest of the day. There appeared to be little demand, and by the close of business fewer than 60,000 shares had changed hands.

Kenwood, the domestic appliances group, is looking for a strong second-half performance after the introduction of new products. In the first half, the group boosted pre-tax profits 24 per cent to £7.4 million. Tim Beech, said Ariete and Mizushi, the new acquisitions, had enabled the group to offset a dull performance in the domestic market. The shares fell 2p to 229p.

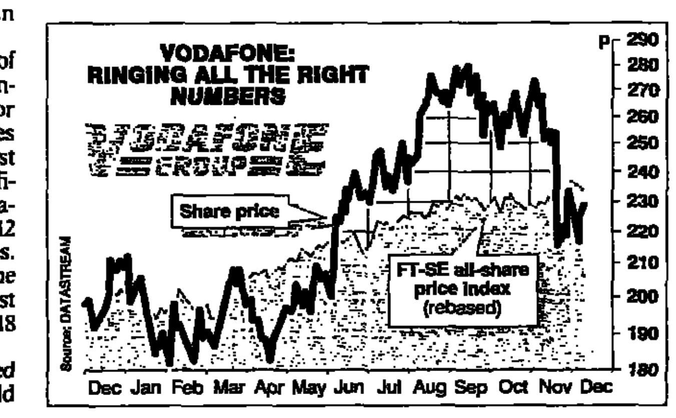
Bensons Group, the engineer, celebrated a return to the black with a rise of 1p to 5½p. Richard Phillips, chairman, told shareholders at the annual meeting that the group's return to profit would be sustained until the end of the financial year. Last year, it reported an operating loss of £500,000.

□ **GILT-EDGED:** There was a general reluctance on the part of institutional investors to open fresh positions and this was clearly reflected in the low levels of turnover. There is too much at stake this week for fund managers to take a cavalier approach. Apart from the inflation numbers, there is also some anxiety ahead of tomorrow's meeting between the Chancellor of the Exchequer and Governor of the Bank of England followed on Thursday by the Bundesbank meeting.

Nevertheless, the market enjoyed an early mark-up, although prices failed to maintain their best levels. In the futures pit, the March series of the long gilt firmed five ticks to £110⁵/₁₆ as turnover slipped to 22,000 contracts.

In the cash market, Treasury 8 per cent 2013 rose £¹/₁₆ to £102⅞, while at the shorter end, Treasury 8 per cent 2000 fell £¹/₁₆ to £104.

□ **NEW YORK:** Shares were firmer at midday, with the Dow Jones industrial average adding 22.05 points to 5,178.90.



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):	
Dow Jones	5178.90 (+22.04)
S&P Composite	619.56 (+2.08)
Tokyo:	
Nikkei Average	19226.78 (-60.19)
Hong Kong:	
Hang Seng	9835.17 (-28.44)
Amsterdam:	
EOE Index	479.27 (+0.89)
Sydney:	
AO	2204.9 (+18.8)
Frankfurt:	
DAX	2272.82 (+5.32)
Singapore:	
Straits	2145.89 (-2.17)
Brussels:	
General	8175.76 (+36.00)
Paris:	
CAC-40	1849.59 (-6.74)
Zurich:	
SKA Gen	706.50 (+3.20)
London:	
FT 30	2644.1 (+14.0)
FT 100	3652.1 (+22.1)
FT-SE Mid 250	3936.9 (+3.7)
FT-SE-A 350	1807.9 (+9.0)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1468.23 (+0.66)
FT A All-Share	1781.53 (+8.15)
FT Non Financials	1874.82 (+7.85)
FT Fixed Interest	115.01 (-0.03)
FT Govt Secs	95.86 (-0.29)
Bargains	31643
SEAQ Volume	1013.0m
USM (Datastrm)	191.77 (+0.76)
US$	1.5340 (+0.0063)
German Mark	2.2156 (+0.0030)
Exchange Index	82.8 (+0.3)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.1786
£:SDR	1.0317
RPI	149.8 Oct (3.2%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	148.7 Oct (2.9%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

Abtrust Hi Inc C (100)	98	...
Arlon Props	9	...
BZW Eqts Tesco Eh	301	+ 7
Benfield & Rea	103	...
CMG (290)	337	...
Cash Converters Intl	26	...
Cortworth (150)	151	+ 1
Cox Insurance	110	...
East Surrey NV	448	...
Finsbury Tech (100)	102	+ 2
Gardner (L)	130	- 8
Gearhse Group (200)	203	...
Jasmin	90	- 5
London Town	80	...
Martin Currie Jp	96½	+ ½
Martin Currie Jp Wts	33	...
National Grid (204)	209½	+ ½
Peptide Thrptcs (200)	232	- 2
Pet City	357	+ 2
Revelation Plcc	100	...
Trocadero	41	- 2
Vero Group	271	...
Wilmington	63	+ 1

RIGHTS ISSUES

Allied Lels n/p (34)	7	...
Cordiant n/p (60)	29	+ 2
Roxspur n/p (3)	¼	...
TBI n/p (50)	5	- ½
The Tv Crp n/p (97)	6	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:	
Phonelink	235p (+20p)
Airtours	358p (+22p)
Laporte	639p (+29p)
Tesco	299p (+10p)
Argos Plc	596p (+17p)
Abbey Ntl	638p (+12p)
Psion	820p (+15p)
FALLS:	
Allders	168p (-21p)
Cortecs	161p (-8p)
Celltech	531p (-20p)
Liberty	303p (-10p)
Br Aerospace	777p (-16p)
Scoba	589p (-11p)
Telspec	935p (-13p)

Closing Prices Page 31

TEMPUS

Anti-nuclear movement

AS the launch day for the Government's sale of the nuclear industry draws closer, the impression is taking shape that British Energy is not so keen on nuclear power. Yesterday, the company took a hard look at the energy market and scrapped plans for two nuclear stations. British Energy — whose generic name-tag suggests something other than eight nuclear plants — is being privatised in a world of falling electricity prices. It has therefore decided that the current outlook does not justify building expensive monuments to British engineering. The cash saved and depreciation forgone will make British Energy more attractive to investors.

Subjecting cosseted state industries to the rigours of the market is the policy but the blast of cold air tends to remove the public relations cobwebs in the process. The nuclear industry was developed in an age when technological goals were deemed to be a sufficient justification to invest; electricity prices were managed and fuels did not compete. The recent collapse of gas prices has demonstrated how competition can queer long-term investments and hurt cash flow.

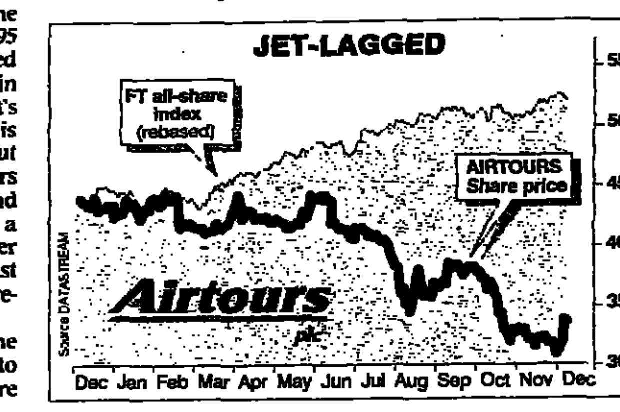
British Energy makes electricity using expensive assets whose ultimate cost on decommissioning is not fully known. Gas is becoming cheaper and will continue to do so as pipelines link Britain through Europe to North African and Siberian supplies as well as the North Sea. Success in supplying electricity to commercial customers and the pool therefore depends on access to cheap generating capacity: the next bit of news from British Energy should therefore be an investment in a combined-cycle gas plant.

Airtours

AFTER last year's dismal performance, the ambition of Airtours to earn as much overseas as it does at home is looking less far-fetched, but the company is still a long way from its target.

Tour operators are down on bended knee to their shareholders, begging for another chance after the disastrous summer of 1995 when customers spurned Greek Island holidays in favour of a fortnight's sunbake in Bognor. This time, capacity has been cut by 14 per cent and operators hope that fewer holidays and normal weather will allow a narrow margin of £20 per passenger instead of last year's skin-of-your-teeth return of £9 per passenger.

Success will depend on the industry's willingness to hold the line, but there are signs — aircraft availability next season — that the reductions in capacity are genuine. On the negative side is the current level of bookings: reservations for summer holidays are 26 per cent down and Airtours itself is 39 per cent below last year's figure, although it attributes the fall on the timing of the release of last year's brochure. The real challenge is to drag this industry to an acceptable level of profitability by persuading the public to pay more for a better product. The increase in long-haul traffic suggests the consumer is willing, but it will take more than one good summer to transform tour operator shares into a reliable investment.



National Grid

THE offspring of 12 somewhat egotistical parents, the National Grid turns out to be a remarkably dull product of a stable upbringing.

During its five years as a privatised company controlled by the Recs, the Grid worked hard to cut costs and provide a solid dividend return. Its new owners are promised continued dividend growth for the next few years and the Grid is expected to continue its efforts to generate cost savings.

Investors seeking excitement should look elsewhere. There is little reason to believe that the Grid will change in character over the coming years: the Government's golden share rules out a takeover and with gearing at more than 90 per cent, there is little scope for raiding the balance sheet in the manner of the Recs, by replacing cash with borrowings. The company will also have to cover the full cost of a tighter regulatory framework after next year's review. Its non-regulated division, Energis, the telecommunications network, has proved to be a disaster. The Grid will seek help in turning the subsidiary around, but profits from that quarter look distant.

Existing shareholders may find stability and reliable dividends enough reason to hold on to their Grid shares, but the stock offers little to new investors.

Allders

ALLDERS management is right to shift the emphasis of its attention from expansion to consolidation.

Last year's rapid growth required investment of £40 million — more than the sum of the previous three years. The resulting empire is proving hard to handle as evidenced by yesterday's lacklustre results and cautious statement by the board.

Having made two profit warnings since the summer City analysts are becoming accustomed to downgrading their forecasts. Yesterday the red pencils were active again and a further few million was knocked off predictions.

The company has been hit by large start-up costs for new duty-free outlets, made more burdensome by sales failing to meet projections. Its department stores fared little better in tough competition and the general retail malaise.

In a bid to revive profits, management is pushing for sales rather than a cost-cutting drive for margin. But the prospects for an upturn in the short-term are limited: the company warned that external factors, such as the Schengen agreement, may hurt the business.

Further out, recovery prospects may become more appealing but given the short-term problems and challenges the shares look fairly priced.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Dec	930-891	Mar	1019-1018
Mar	942-941	May	1030-1029
May	961-960	Jul	unq
Jul	980-978	Sep	...
Sep	999-998		
Dec	1010-1008	Volume: 2340	

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Jan	2155-2145	Sep	1695-1685
Mar	1867-1865	Nov	1681-1670
May	1785-1780	Jan	1670-1650
Jul	1730-1720	Volume: 4514	

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Oct	305.9-05.0
Spot: 386.0		Dec	299.9-99.0
Mar	352.0-51.4	Mar	298.2-96.5
May	343.5-42.5	May	298.7-96.5
Aug	333.8-32.5	Volume: 1108	

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on December 8

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	105.86	118.99	117.53
(+/-)	+6.63	-0.34	-4.64
Eng/Wales:	105.86	119.38	118.12
(+/-)	+6.63	+0.10	-3.93
(%)	+18.0	+7.0	-23.0
Scotland:	unq	115.97	113.74
(+/-)	..	-3.70	-9.36
(%)	—	-9.0	-11.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	17.65	-0.10
Brent 15 day (Jan)	17.75	n/c
Brent 15 day (Feb)	17.45	+0.10
W Texas Intermediate (Jan)	18.90	n/c
W Texas Intermediate (Feb)	18.60	+0.05

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

Premium Gas .15	B: 171 (+2)	O: 173 (+2)
Gasoil EEC	175 (+4)	177 (+4)
Non EEC IH Jan	175 (+5)	177 (+5)
Non EEC IH Feb	170 (+4)	172 (+4)
3.5 Fuel Oil	104 (+2)	106 (+2)
Naphtha	161 (+1)	163 (+1)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Dec	170.25-70.50	Mar	162.50-62.75
Jan	170.50-70.75	Apr	158.75-59.00
Feb	166.75-67.00	Vol: 38773	

BRENT (6.00pm)

Jan	17.79-17.80	Apr	16.98-17.00
Feb	17.47-17.48	May	16.80-16.86
Mar	17.21 SLR	Vol: 40245	

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Jan	124.15	Jan	113.45
Mar	125.80	Mar	115.50
May	127.85	May	117.15
Jul	129.80	Sep	109.50
Sep	112.25	Nov	112.50
Volume: 872		Volume: 139	

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Mar	unq	270.0
Apr	260.0	258.5
May	unq	300.0
	Volume: 46	

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

Jan 115.75-116.25

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Dec 95	1640	1635	1640
Jan 96	1650	1610	1640
Feb 96	1630	1620	1630
Apr 96	1615	1600	1610
Vol: 327 lots		Open Interest: 4143	

Index 1610 +4

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE (Official) (Volume prev day) Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	3003.0-3005.0	2685.0-2687.0	1880925
Lead ($/tonne)	745.50-746.00	734.00-735.00	235380
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1036.0-1036.5	1061.0-1061.5	525525
Tin ($/tonne)	6380.0-6385.0	6375.0-6380.0	22490
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1645.0-1645.5	1678.0-1678.5	1118025
Nickel ($/tonne)	8180.0-8185.0	8300.0-8310.0	48666

LIFFE OPTIONS

Series		Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
Alld Dom.	500	14½	29½	36½	10½	18½	26
(*500½)	550	1	10	16½	49½	51½	58
Argyll	300	20½	30½	35½	2½	8	13½
(*316)	330	5	14½	19½	17	22	28½
ASDA	100	9	12½	16	3	5½	7
(*105½)	110	4	7½	11	7½	10½	11½
Boots	550	44	58	66	2	6½	13½
(*588½)	600	11	26½	35	19½	26	34½
Br Airways	460	20½	34	42½	6½	13	20½
(*471)	500	3½	15	22½	30½	35	41½
BP	500	31	40½	48	3	9½	13½
(*525½)	550	5	13½	22	26	33½	38
Br Steel	160	7	13	15½	4	7	11
(*162½)	180	1	4½	7	18	19½	31
C & W	420	30	44½	51	6½	13	19½
(*440½)	460	9½	24½	31½	25½	32	38½
CU	600	40½	59½	61½	5½	20	25
(*631½)	650	11½	26	35½	26½	46½	51
ICI	700	56½	68½	76	2½	15½	20
(*749½)	750	21½	36	46½	16½	37	42
Kingfishr	500	20½	36	41	9½	22½	30
(*508)	550	3	14	19½	43	53½	59½
Land Sec	600	16½	32	39	8	15	26½
(*605)	650	1	11	16	45	46	57½
M & S	420	28½	39½	45½	1½	6	11½
(*444)	460	5½	16½	22½	18½	23½	29½
Nat West	650	30	41	54½	8½	28	37
(*665)	700	8	19	32½	36½	58½	66
Sainsbury	360	22½	32½	37	3	7½	12½
(*377)	390	5½	15½	21	18	20½	27
Shell	800	41	55	61	3	13½	18
(*833½)	850	10½	23½	33	20½	36½	41½
Smkl Bch	650	53	67	80½	3	10	16
(*696½)	700	17½	36	50½	17½	29	35½
Storehse	330	21½	30½	38	4	9	13½
(*344½)	360	6	14½	22	18½	23½	28
Trafalgar	25	3½	5½	7	2½	4½	5½
(*27)	30	1½	3½	5½	5½	7½	8½
Unilever	1300	49	73	88½	9½	25½	34
(*1335½)	1350	19	42	59½	29	48½	57
Zeneca	1250	65½	96½	119½	17	43½	57½
(*1290)	1300	36½	68½	92½	37½	66½	81

Series		Calls Feb	May	Aug	Puts Feb	May	Aug
Grnd Met	420	34½	43½	52	9	13	19
(*449½)	460	12	23	31½	29½	32½	38½
Ladbroke	140	22	24	29	5	9½	11
(*154½)	160	11½	14½	19½	14	19	21½
Utd Bisc	240	22	26	29½	5½	10½	13
(*253½)	260	10½	15½	19½	14	21	23½

December 11, 1995 Tot: 20663 Call: 12844 Put: 7819 FT-SE Call: 3648 Put: 4752

*Underlying security price.

Series		Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
BAA	460	28	40	47	3	8	13½
(*482)	500	9½	16½	25	21	26	31½
Thames W	550	25	43½	51½	4	15½	30
(*564½)	600	6½	22	28	37½	43	57½

Series		Calls Feb	May	Aug	Puts Feb	May	Aug
BAT Ind	550	29½	36½	44½	14½	27½	36½
(*557½)	600	10	16	25	46½	59½	66½
BTR	300	26½	29	32½	2	7½	9½
(*320)	330	8½	11½	17	14	22½	24½
Br Aero	750	53	67½	87	17½	29½	38
(*777)	800	26	43½	60½	41	54	62
Br Telcm	330	24	29½	36	5½	8	15
(*350½)	360	7½	14½	20	21½	23½	29½
Cadbury	550	29½	35	46½	20½	33½	38½
(*550)	600	10½	17	26½	52½	65½	69½
Guinness	460	19½	25½	33	12½	22½	26½
(*461)	500	5½	10	17½	39½	48½	51½
GEC	300	19½	26	31	5	7½	12½
(*314½)	330	5	10½	15	21½	23	28
Hanson	180	12	13½	17	4	6½	7½
(*187)	191	5½	—	—	9½	—	—
LASMO	160	13½	17	22	4½	7½	9½
(*167)	180	4½	8	13	15½	17½	20
Lucas	160	21½	25	28	1½	4	5½
(*177½)	180	8½	13	16½	8	11	13
Pilkingtn	191	12	17½	21½	6½	8	12
(*194)	210	4½	9	12½	18½	19	23
Prudential	420	27½	33½	41	12½	21½	26
(*430)	460	10½	16	23½	35	45	49
Redland	360	25	34	37½	8	17	19½
(*372½)	390	10½	18½	23½	24	33	36
R-Royce	160	20	22½	26½	2	5½	7
(*176)	180	7	10½	15½	9½	14½	16
Tesco	280	26	32	34	4	7½	10
(*299)	300	13½	19½	22½	11	16	19
Vodafone	220	18	25	29½	5½	9½	12
(*229½)	240	8½	15	19½	19½	20	22
Williams	300	27½	33	35	2	6½	8½
(*322)	330	8½	14½	17½	13	20½	22½

FT-SE INDEX (*3652)

	3550	3600	3650	3700	3750	3800
Calls						
Dec	109	61	22	4	1	1
Jan	133	95½	63½	38½	20½	10
Feb	157½	120½	90½	69	43½	29
Mar	175½	142½	110½	85	60½	43½
Jun	—	187	—	133½	—	86
Puts						
Dec	1½	3½	15	53	103	153
Jan	21	33½	52	78	113½	158
Feb	33	47	67	93	125	163
Mar	49½	66½	85½	111	138½	173½
Jun	—	110½	—	156	—	212½

Series		Calls Dec	Mar	Jun	Puts Dec	Mar	Jun
Abby Nat	600	39½	58½	65½	0½	19½	27½
(*637½)	650	6½	29½	39	16	44½	52½
Amstrad	220	19	27	34	0½	5½	8
(*238½)	240	3	15	22½	5½	13	16½
Barclays	750	29½	54	62½	2½	23	32½
(*776)	800	3½	26½	37½	26	49½	58½
Blue Circ	300	27	36	40½	0	5	11
(*326½)	330	3½	17	22½	7	16	24½
Br Gas	220	10	19½	24	1	7	11
(*228½)	240	1	9½	14	12	17	22½
Dixons	390	20½	36	46	1	12	16½
(*408½)	420	3½	20	30	13½	25½	30½
Forte	330	10½	21½	25½	2	11	16
(*337½)	340	0½	7½	9½	22½	27	32
Tarmac	90	5	10	12	1	4	7½
(*94)	100	0½	5	7½	6½	9½	13
Hillsdwn	140	12	16	17	0	3	7
(*151½)	160	1	4½	6½	8½	12	18½
Lonrho	160	15½	19	24	0	3½	5
(*175)	180	1½	8	13½	6	13	14
Sears	90	9	12	13½	0	1½	2½
(*99)	100	1½	5½	7½	2	5	7
Thrn Eml	1500	115½	142½	181½	0	17	26½
(*1612½)	1600	27	79½	118½	11½	51	61
Tomkins	260	5	13½	20½	3	11	14½
(*261½)	280	0	6	11½	18½	23½	26
TSB	390	22	28½	32	1	18	21
(*411)	420	2½	9	14½	12½	33½	36

Series		Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
Glaxo Well	850	53½	70½	85	6	23	32
(*892)	900	22	41½	57	23	46	55
HSBC	950	61½	87½	99½	9	34½	44
(*996½)	1000	30½	58	72½	26½	58	67½
Reuter	600	19½	36	50½	16½	30½	36½
(*600)	650	4	16	29½	51½	60½	66

Series		Calls Jan	Apr	Jul	Puts Jan	Apr	Jul
Royal Ins	360	28	39	45½	3½	16	22
(*381)	390	12	23½	31	16	32	37½

Series		Calls Dec	Mar	Jun	Puts Dec	Mar	Jun
Fisons	260	4	7½	7½	0½	0½	5½
(*264)	280	0½	0½	0½	16	16	19

Series		Calls Feb	May		Puts Feb	May	
Eastern Gp	950	26½	25½	—	0½	1	—
(*974)	1000	0½	0½	—	34	34½	—

Series		Calls Dec	Mar	Jun	Puts Dec	Mar	Jun
Natl Pwr	420	35½	40½	57½	0	4	12½
(*454½)	460	4½	21½	33	9	17½	29
Scot Pwr	360	10	18½	27½	2	13	15
(*367)	390	0½	7	13½	23	31	32½

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100	Dec 95	3637.0	3660.0	3636.0	3657.0	14208
Previous open interest: 80661	Mar 96	3659.0	3683.0	3659.0	3680.0	10475
FT-SE 250	Dec 95				3935.0	0
Previous open interest: 3658	Mar 96				3985.0	0
Three Month Sterling	Dec 95	93.52	93.53	93.50	93.51	8041
Previous open interest: 404378	Mar 96	93.81	93.84	93.80	93.80	9325
	Jun 96	93.93	93.95	93.91	93.92	5037
Three Mth Eurodollar	Dec 95				94.23	0
Previous open interest: 110	Mar 96				94.60	0
Three Mth Euro DM	Dec 95	96.08	96.10	96.07	96.09	12541
Previous open interest: 977375	Mar 96	96.35	96.37	96.34	96.36	11296
Long Gilt	Dec 95	110-29	111-03	110-26	110-26	2168
Previous open interest: 150661	Mar 96	110-11	110-19	110-07	110-10	23484
Japanese Govmt Bond	Mar 96	122.10	122.25	122.10	122.20	1587
	Jun 96				120.74	0
German Gov Bd Bund	Mar 96	98.73	98.81	98.65	98.69	54574
Previous open interest: 195323	Jun 96	98.09	98.09	98.09	98.07	1
Three month ECU	Dec 95	94.58	94.60	94.57	94.58	523
Previous open interest: 21144	Mar 96	94.80	94.83	94.80	94.81	389
Euro Swiss Franc	Dec 95	97.81	97.88	97.81	97.88	2254
Previous open interest: 54111	Mar 96	98.04	98.11	98.03	98.10	3558
Italian Govmt Bond	Mar 96	106.32	106.38	105.90	106.07	23516
Previous open interest: 48367	Jun 96				105.67	0

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 6¾ Finance Hse 7
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 6¾ Low 6½ Week fixed: 6¾
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 6 9/16; 3 mth 6 17/32; Sell: 2 mth 6½; 3 mth: 6½.

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	6 11/16-6 9/16	6 11/16-6 9/16	6 9/16-6½	6½-6⅜	
Sterling Money Rates:	6 25/32-6 11/16	6¾-6⅝	6 21/32-6 9/16	6½-6 7/16	6⅜-6¼
Interbank:	6 25/32-6 11/16	6¾-6⅝	6 21/32-6 9/16	6½-6 7/16	6⅜-6¼
Overnight: open 6⅞, close 6¾.					
Local Authority Deps:	6¾	n/a	6⅝	6½	6⅜
Sterling CDs:	6⅝-6½	6 21/32-6 9/16	6 9/16-6½	6 15/32-6 13/32	6⅜-6¼
Dollar CDs:	5.73	n/a	5.68	5.48	5.38
Building Society CDs:	6 25/32-6 11/16	6⅝-6½	6½-6 9/16	6½-6⅜	6⅜-6¼

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	5¾-5⅝	5 25/32-5 11/16	5 11/16-5 9/16	5⅝-5½	5¾-4¾
Deutschemark:	4⅛-3⅞	4 1/16-3 15/16	4-3⅞	4-3⅞	4¼-3¼
French Franc:	5⅞-5⅝	5¾-5½	5⅝-5½	5½-4⅞	5¼-4¾
Swiss Franc:	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-2⅛	2⅛-2⅛	2¼-1¼
Yen:	½-¼	½-¼	½-¼	½-¼	n/a

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $390.00-390.40 Close: $389.20-389.70 High: $390.00-390.40 Low: $388.80-389.30 AM: $389.70 PM: $389.60

Krugerrand: $389.50-391.50 (£253.00-255.00)

Platinum: $416.60 (£271.75) Silver: $5.24 (£3.405) Palladium: $133.75 (£87.25)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mid Rates for Dec 11	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.4777-2.4844	2.4779-2.4812	¾-½pr	1¾-1½pr
Brussels	45.480-45.650	45.500-45.600	12-9pr	31-26pr
Copenhagen	8.5590-8.6010	8.5730-8.5950	1½-1pr	3¼-2¾pr
Dublin	0.9657-0.9694	0.9668-0.9694	9-6pr	22-17pr
Frankfurt	2.2128-2.2193	2.2142-2.2172	¾-½pr	1¾-1½pr
Lisbon	232.21-233.38	232.50-233.13	38-65ds	129-173ds
Madrid	188.54-189.13	188.60-188.88	49-58ds	138-155ds
Milan	2439.6-2451.5	2445.4-2449.4	8-9ds	23-25ds
Montreal	2.1154-2.1207	2.1154-2.1184	0.14-0.06pr	0.24-0.12pr
New York	1.5332-1.5356	1.5336-1.5346	0.10-0.09pr	0.26-0.23pr
Oslo	9.7440-9.7970	9.7770-9.7920	1⅞-½pr	3⅞-2⅞pr
Paris	7.6390-7.6610	7.6420-7.6550	½-¼pr	1¼-1pr
Stockholm	10.261-10.363	10.340-10.363	¼-½ds	1/2-1¼ds
Tokyo	154.68-155.18	154.89-155.15	1¼-1pr	2¾-2½pr
Vienna	15.560-15.610	15.571-15.595	¾-½pr	1½-1pr
Zurich	1.7871-1.7959	1.7921-1.7949	¾-½pr	2-1¾pr

Source: Extel Premium pr. Discount ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.3566-1.3575
Austria	10.14-10.15
Belgium (Com)	29.65-29.69
Canada	1.3795-1.3800
Denmark	5.5898-5.5918
France	4.9840-4.9850
Germany	1.4435-1.4440
Hong Kong	7.7335-7.7345
Ireland	1.5877-1.5897
Italy	1594.50-1596.50
Japan	100.95-101.05
Malaysia	2.5375-2.5385
Netherlands	1.6158-1.6164
Norway	6.3735-6.3765
Portugal	151.69-151.79
Singapore	1.4132-1.4142
Spain	123.03-123.11
Sweden	6.7398-6.7473
Switzerland	1.1676-1.1686

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5330-1.5356
Australia dollar	2.0847-2.0870
Bahrain dinar	0.5715-0.5835
Brazil real*	1.4874-1.4910
China yuan	12.00 Buy
Cyprus pound	0.6955-0.7055
Finland markka	6.5825-6.6985
Greece drachma	361.00-368.00
Hong Kong dollar	11.8817-11.8887
India rupee	52.98-53.94
Indonesia rupiah	3470.00-3538.60
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4545-0.4645
Malaysia ringgit	3.8976-3.9017
New Zealand dollar	2.3755-2.3796
Pakistan rupee	52.51 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.5175-5.6415
Singapore dollar	2.1707-2.1735
S Africa rand (com)	5.5700-5.6890
U A E dirham	5.5650-5.6890

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

FT-SE VOLUMES

3i	735	Lloyds Bk	4,100
ASDA Gp	11,000	London Elect	476
Abbey Ntl	2,700	Marks Spr	4,400
Allied Dom	2,000	Mid Elec	240
Argyll Gp	2,500	NatWst Bk	2,500
Arjo Wggns	1,400	Nat Grid	24,000
AB Foods	136	Nat Power	1,900
BAA	2,100	NW Water	393
BAT Inds	6,600	P & O	2,700
BOC	530	Pearson	310
BP	6,600	PowerGen	2,300
BSkyB	1,300	Prudential	2,800
BTR	7,300	REXAM	9,500
BT	10,000	RMC	170
Bk of Scot	1,900	RTZ	1,500
Barclays	2,300	Rank Org	620
Bass	5,000	Reckitt Col	1,100
Blue Circle	1,600	Redland	444
Boots	1,400	Reed Intl	847
BAe	2,300	Rentokil	1,300
BA	1,300	Reuters	1,700
Brit Gas	3,800	Rolls Royce	7,200
Brit Steel	13,000	Royal Ins	688
Burmah Cstl	615	Ryl Bk Scot	1,300
Cable Wire	1,600	Sainsbury	2,300
Cadbury	1,700	Schroders	26
Carlton Cms	371	Scot & New	371
Cm Union	817	Scot Power	3,100
Cookson	707	Sears	4,800
Courtaulds	448	Sytn Trent	614
De La Rue	4,200	Shell Trans	2,700
Enterpr Oil	841	Siebe	1,500
Forte	9,300	SmKl Bch	989
GKN	1,000	Smith Nph	256
GRE	660	Sthern Elec	389
GUS	3,900	Std Chartd	2,100
Gen Acc	511	Sun Allnce	1,900
Gen Elec	4,400	TI Gp	592
Glaxo Well	2,300	TSB	2,800
Granada	799	Tate & Lyle	537
Grand Met	3,500	Tesco	4,300
Guinness	5,700	Thames W	638
HSBC	1,700	Thrn EMI	1,500
Hanson	7,700	Tomkins	4,900
ICI	716	Unilever	731
Kingfisher	2,500	Vodafone	12,000
LASMO	1,400	Whitbread	667
Ladbroke	2,800	Wlms Hld	529
Land Secs	482	Wolseley	119
Legal & Gn	1,200	Zeneca	797

WALL STREET

	Dec 11 midday	Dec 8 close
AMP Inc	39½	39½
AMR Corp	77	76
AT & T	65½	65½
Abbott Labs	41½	41½
Advanced Micro	19½	19½
Aetna Life	72	71½
Ahmanson (HF)	26½	26½
Air Prod & Chem	55½	55½
AirTouch Comm	27½	27½
Alberto-Culver B	36½	36½
Albertson's	33½	33½
Alcan Alumnm	31½	32½
Alco Standard	43½	44
Allied Signal	48½	48½
Alum Co of Am	54½	56
Amax Gold Inc	7½	7½
Amerada Hess	49½	48½
Amer Brands	44½	43½
Amer El Power	38½	38½
Amer Express	43	43½
Amer Genl Corp	33½	33
Amer Home Pr	94½	94½
Amer Intl	91½	91
Amer Stores	26½	26½
Amer Standard	30½	30½
Ameritech	57	56
Amoco	70½	68½
Anheuser-Busch	66½	66½
Apple Computer	38½	39½
Archer Daniels	17½	17½
Armco	5½	5½
Armstrng Wrld	63½	63½
Asarco	35½	35½
Ashland Oil	34½	35½
Atl Richfield	114½	112½
Auto Data Pro	81½	81½
Avery Dennison	49½	48½
Avon Products	76½	76½
Baker Hughes	22	21½
Baltim Gas & El	26½	26½
Banc One	39½	39½
BankAmerica	66½	66½
Bank of NY	46½	46½
Bankers Tr NY	67½	67½
Barnett Banks	60½	60
Bausch & Lomb	36½	36½
Baxter Intl	41½	41½
Becton Dickinsn	73½	72½
Bell Atlantic	65½	64½
Bell Industries	22½	22½
BellSouth	41½	40½
Black & Decker	36	35½
Block (H&R)	44½	43½
Boeing	73½	73½
Boise Cascade	34½	34½
Bristol Myrs Sq	83	84½
Browning Ferris	31½	31½
Brunswick	22	21½
Burlington Nthn	79½	80½
CNA Financial	114½	115
CPC Intl	70½	70½
CSX	48½	48½
Campbell Soup	59	58½
Can Pacific	18½	18½
Cpl Cities ABC	125½	124½
Carolina Pwr	33½	33½
Caterpillar	61½	60½
Central & SW	27½	27½
Champion Intl	42½	44½
Chase Manhat	61½	62½
Chemical Bk	60½	60½
Chevron Corp	52½	51½
Chrysler	54½	52½
Chubb Corp	99½	99
Cigna Corp	109½	110½
Citicorp	68½	69½
Clorox	77½	77
Coastal Corp	35	34½
Coca Cola	79½	78½
Colgate-Palmolive	74½	74½
Columbia Gas	43½	43½
Columbia/HCA	52½	52½
Compaq Comp	49½	48½
Comp Ass Int	63½	61½
Conagra	40½	40½
Conrail	70½	70½
Cons Edison	29½	29½
Cons Nat Gas	44½	44
Cooper Inds	36½	36½
Corestates	38½	38½
Corning Inc	31½	31½
Crown Cork	42½	42½
Dana Corp	29½	29
Dayton Hudson	73½	73½
Deere	35½	35
Delta Air Lines	76	75½
Deluxe Corp	27½	27½
Detroit Edison	34	34
Digital Equip	64½	63½
Dillard Dept St	28½	28½
Disney (Walt)	62	61
Dominion Res	40½	40½
Donnelley (RR)	38	38½
Dover Corp	37½	37½
Dow Chemical	70½	71½
Dow Jones	39½	39½
Dresser	21½	23
Duke Power	46½	46½
Dun & Bradstreet	63	62½
Du Pont	68	68

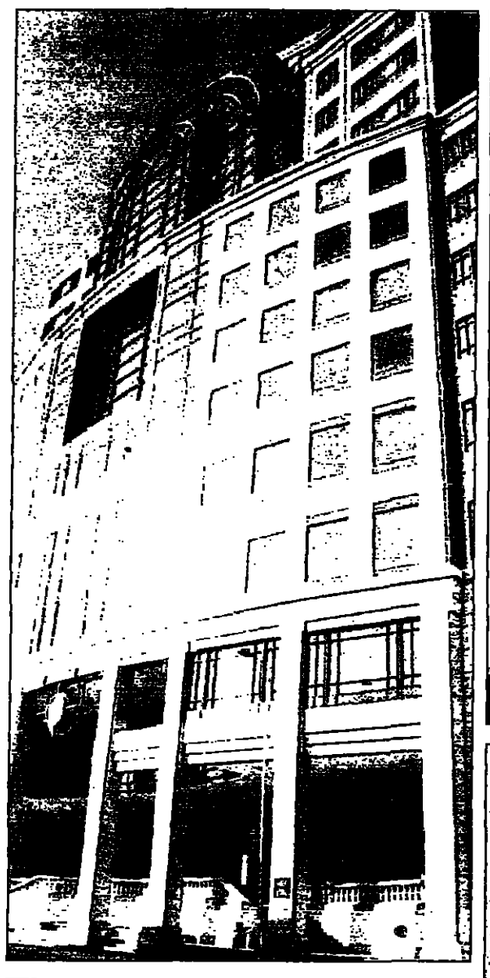
	Dec 11 midday	Dec 8 close
Eastman Kodak	69½	68½
Eaton Corp	55½	54½
Emerson Elec	79½	79½
Engelhard Corp	22½	22½
Enron Corp	38½	37½
Entergy	26½	27
Ethyl Corp	13	12½
Exxon	83½	81½
FMC Corp	73	72½
FPL Group	44½	44½
Federal Express	80½	80½
Fed Nat Mtge	115½	115½
First Interstate	140	140½
First Union Rlty	7½	7½
Fleet Fnl Grp	41½	41½
Fluor Corp	66½	65½
Ford Motor	28½	28½
GTE Corp	42½	42½
Gannett	63½	63
Gap Inc Del	45½	45½
Gen Dynamics	60	60½
Gen Electric	71½	70½
Gen Mills	55½	56
Gen Motors	49½	49½
Gen Reinsurance	159½	156
Gen Signal	32½	33
Genuine Parts	41½	40½
Georgia Pac	71½	73½
Gillette	53½	53½
Glaxo Wellc ADR	27½	27½
Goodrich (BF)	67½	67½
Goodyear Tire	43½	43½
Grace (WR)	62½	62½
Grt Atl Pac Tea	22½	22
Great Wstn Fin	26½	25½
Halliburton	46½	46½
Harcourt General	41½	42
Heinz (HJ)	33½	33½
Hercules	58½	58½
Hershey Foods	65½	64½
Hewlett Packard	86½	87
Hilton Hotels	64½	64½
Home Depot	43½	44½
Homestake Mng	16½	16½
Honeywell	47½	47½
Household Intl	63½	63½
Houston Inds	23½	47
Humana	26½	26½
ITT Corp	125½	126
Illinois Tool	60½	60½
Illinova	28½	28½
INCO	39½	35½
Ingersoll Rand	37	36½
Inland Steel	25½	25½
Intel Corp	63½	63½
IBM	96½	96½
Intl Flav & Fr	55	54½
Intl Paper	36½	36½
James River Va	29½	31½
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	87½	87½
Kellogg	77½	79
Kerr-McGee	60½	59½
Kimberly-Clark	77½	77½
Kmart	8	7½
Knight-Ridder	64½	63½
Lilly (Eli)	101½	101
Limited Inc	17½	17½
Lincoln Nat	49½	49½
Litton	43½	44
Liz Claiborne	28½	26½
Lockheed Martin	74½	74½
Louisiana Pac	25½	25½
MCI Comm	26½	26½
Marriott Int	38½	38½
Marsh & McLnn	89½	88½
Masco Corp	29½	29½
May Dept St	43½	44½
Maytag Corp	20½	20½
McDonalds	45½	45½
McDonnell D	88½	88
McGraw Hill	85½	85½
Mead Corp	54½	54½
Medtronic	55½	54
Mellon Bk	54½	55½
Melville Corp	31½	31½
Merck Inc	63½	63½
Merrill Lynch	54½	54½
Microsoft	93½	94½
Minnesota Mnc	68	66½
Mobil Corp	111½	110½
Monsanto	117½	117
Morgan (JP)	80½	80½
Motorola Inc	61½	61½
Natl Semi	22½	22½
Natl Service Ind	33	32½
Navistar Int	12	12
NY Times A	29½	29½
Newmont Mng	43	43½
Niag Mohawk	10	10
Nike B	60½	61½
NL Industries	12½	12½
Noram Energy	8½	8½
Nordstrom	40½	40½
Norfolk Sthrn	80½	79½
Nthn State Pwr	47½	47½
Norwest Corp	33½	34
Nynex Corp	47½	47½
Occidental Pet	21½	21½
Ohio Edison	22½	22½
Oracle	46½	46½

	Dec 11 midday	Dec 8 close
Oryx Energy Co	13½	13½
Owens Corning	46½	46½
PPG Industries	45½	46½
PNC Bank	29½	30
PP&L Res	24½	24½
Paccar Inc	48	48
Pacificorp	20	20½
Pac Enterprises	27½	27½
Pac Gas & Elect	27½	27½
Pac Telesis	33½	32½
Pall Corp	27½	27½
Panhandle East	28½	28½
Parker Hannifin	37½	37½
Peco Energy	29½	29½
Penney (JC)	47½	48½
Pennzoil	40½	39½
Pepsico	58	57½
Pfizer	64½	63½
Pharm & Upjhn	37	37
Phelps Dodge	65½	66½
Philip Morris	90	89½
Phillips Pet	34½	33½
Pitney Bowes	47½	47½
Polaroid	47½	46½
PriceCostco	16½	16½
Procter & Gmbl	87½	87½
Providian	41½	41½
Pub Serv E & G	29½	29½
Quaker Oats	35½	35½
Ralston Purina	66½	66½
Raychem Corp	56½	56½
Raytheon	45½	45½
Reebok Intl	25½	25½
Reynolds Metals	56½	56½
Rockwell Intl	51½	51
Rohm & Haas	62½	63
Royal Dutch	134½	132½
Rubbermaid	26½	26½
SBC Comms	55½	55½
Safeco Corp	37½	37½
St Paul's Cos	56	55½
Salomon Inc	35½	35½
Sara Lee Corp	33½	33½
Scecorp	15½	15½
Schering Plough	59½	59½
Schlumberger	69	68
Scott Paper	59½	60
Seagram	36	35½
Sears Roebuck	39½	39
Shell Trans	78½	77½
Sherwin Wlms	39½	39½
Skyline Corp	18½	18½
Snap-On-Tools	42½	43½
Southern Co	23½	23½
Sprint Corp	39½	39
Stanley Works	52½	52½
Sun Company	27½	27½
Sun Microsys	98½	99½
Suntrust	68½	68½
Supervalu	32½	32½
Sysco Corp	32½	32½
TRW Inc	76½	76½
TCC Inds	2½	2½
Tandem Comp	12	12
Tandy Corp	44½	45
Teledyne	24½	24½
Temple Inland	44½	45
Tenneco	49	49½
Texaco	79½	78½
Texas Inst	56½	56½
Texas Utilities	38½	38½
Textron	76½	76½
Time Warner	40	39½
Times-Mirror A	33½	34½
Timken	39½	39½
Torchmark	44	44
Toys R Us	23½	23½
Transamerica	70½	70½
Travelers	60½	61
Tribune	64½	64½
Tyco Labs	33	32½
UST Inc	34½	34½
UAL	209½	204½
US Inds	16½	16½
USX Marathon	19½	18½
Unicom	31½	31½
Unilever NV	140½	140½
Union Camp	48½	48½
Union Carbide	39½	39½
Union Pacific	66½	67½
Unisys Corp	5½	5½
USAir Group	13½	12½
USF&G Corp	17½	17½
US Life	31½	31½
United Tech	96	95
Unocal Corp	28½	28½
VF Corp	52	52
WMX Tech	29½	29½
Wal-Mart Stores	23½	23½
Warner-Lambert	94½	94½
Wells Fargo	220½	220½
Westinghouse El	16½	17
Weyerhaeuser	42½	43½
Whirlpool	54½	54½
Whitman	22½	22½
Winn Dixie	37	36½
Woolworth	14½	14½
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	49½	49
Xerox	141½	142½
Yellow Corp	12½	12½

هكذا من الأصل

City relishes many a happy return on mega-deal revival

Patricia Tehan predicts a season of plenty for investment banks and City advisers











Beneficiaries of the mega-deal: (clockwise) Barings Bank's former deputy chairman Andrew Tuckey returned as a consultant when ING Bank took over after the Leeson affair. Tuckey advised Lloyds over C&G, a deal sealed by chiefs Andrew Longhurst (C&G) and Sir Brian Pitman. Barings also played a key role advising Lloyds's Sir Robin Ibbs in the deal with Sir Nicholas Goodison and TSB

After a six-year absence, the mega-deal has returned to boost the coffers of City investment banks and substantial bonuses will be paid next year to the corporate financiers who worked on the deals.

Last year, UK public and private mergers and acquisitions totalled an estimated £69 billion. That will bring in fees of about £950 million to the teams of investment banks, stockbrokers, accountants, lawyers and public relations advisers, according to Philip Healey, editor of *Acquisitions Monthly*. That compares with the last peak in activity, in 1989, when takeovers and mergers worth £45.5 billion were completed, bringing in fees of £800 million.

Barings, the merchant bank rescued in March from administrators by ING, the Dutch banking group, has been one of the best performers, working on the City's highest-profile deals. Its mandates included advising Wellcome on its £9 billion takeover by rival Glaxo, and advising Lloyds Bank on its £1.8 billion acquisition of Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society, and, more recently, its proposed £13.6 billion merger with TSB.

Both deals were on the go when Barings collapsed in February after Nick Leeson ran up £830 million losses in futures and options in the group's Singapore office. The entire Barings team moved into Wellcome's offices and ran their defence from there, away from the distractions of negotiations over the bank's future in Bishopsgate.

As a result of action such as this, Barings's client base remained loyal, and it went on to win a big share of the flood of work that has come in since then.

Its bonus pool this year could be up to £20 million, after generating fees of £50 million. Andrew Tuckey, the deputy chairman of Barings at the time of its collapse will receive at least £100,000 in consultancy fees. That package may grow by up to £400,000. He advised Lloyds over C&G.

The City banks are also taking a large chunk of continental European merger and acquisition work, which is why US investment banks have been extending their presence in London.

Mr Healey said that J P Morgan, which brought Lloyds and C&G together and is advising TSB on the Lloyds deal, as well as its US rivals, Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley, were all extremely active this year.

One banker said that although corporate financiers will enjoy fat bonus cheques for this year's work, "it is not going to be a bumper year for bonuses in the way that 1993 was for the City. Everything was firing in 1993. Investors were looking for a home for their money big time. Issuers were issuing, and the bond and equities markets were having a bull year."

In 1993, booming stock markets worldwide brought record bonuses to dealers in the City. The US banks were the big payers, with, for example, 70 executives at Goldman Sachs receiving at least $1 million each and 161 partners receiving a minimum profit share of $5 million each. Many were able to double their salaries.

Last year, it could not have been more different. Turmoil in the equity and bond markets depressed profits, forcing firms to cut costs which, for some, meant significant reductions in staffing levels.

This year, banks have enjoyed an improvement in profits after a poor 1994 but business has been far more mixed. Staff at Salomon Brothers, one of 1993's big payers, were last week told that their bonuses would be significantly lower than last year. Poor profits mean that the discretionary part of their pay will be cut by at least 20 per cent. Some would suffer an even greater fall in their bonus payments. An investment banker said that anyone working in the bond markets would have done better this year than last, but those concerned with derivatives would have been affected by the far lower volumes that followed the Barings collapse and arguments over the way derivatives have been sold between Bankers Trust and Procter & Gamble and between Merrill Lynch and Orange County.

The Glaxo takeover of Wellcome, at £9 billion, was the City's biggest deal, involving Baring Brothers and Morgan Stanley for Wellcome and Lazard Brothers for Glaxo. Next is Lloyds's planned £5.9 billion reverse takeover of TSB, involving JP Morgan for TSB and Barings for Lloyds. A much wider group of names has played a role in the current consolidation in the utility sectors, which started this year and will carry on into next. The biggest deal this year, excluding National Power's £2.7 billion bid for Southern Electric, which lapsed when the Monopolies and Mergers Commission decided to investigate, was Hanson's £2.4 billion takeover of Eastern Group.

SBC Warburg will do well as adviser to Forte on Granada's hostile £3.2 billion bid for the hotels group, as will Morgan Stanley and J P Morgan. Lazard Brothers is advising Granada.

Such huge deals are not put together overnight. Granada had Forte in its sights for two years. Rhone-Poulenc Rorer, advised by Hambro Magan and Lehman Brothers, is believed to have been following Fisons for three years.

Sir Brian Pitman, chief executive of Lloyds, said that the bank scans possible acquisition targets and had been scanning TSB for many years before the time was right for the two sides to come together.

Investment bankers say next year will be even better. In anticipation, they are hiring aggressively, as demonstrated by Merrill Lynch's recent recruitment of Deutsche Morgan Grenfell's top two corporate financiers, Guy Dawson, head of corporate finance, and Justin Dowley, head of UK corporate finance. The US investment bank attempted to recruit their colleage, Rory Macnamara, but he was persuaded to stay at Deutsche Morgan Grenfell and made head of UK corporate finance. BZW, Barclays Bank's investment banking arm, brought in Mark Seligman, head of SBC Warburg's advisory business as joint chief executive of corporate finance in July.

It is the first time for five years that investment banks have been recruiting like this. They are assuming that the takeover activity will continue next year and well into 1997.

The prospect of a Labour Government is focusing the minds of companies, says Mr Healey. Cash is available, the economy is picking up, and they are ready to buy rivals and bolt-on businesses that have not fared well in recession and reap the rewards.

THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Over-fifties show how

FORGET the teenage whiz-kids who make a fortune from hi-tech gimmickry in a few short years: a new report shows those companies set up by the over-50s have a much greater chance of success. While only one in five companies set up in 1988 has survived, seven out of ten started by the over-50s are still going strong. One of the reasons was that they were less likely to borrow, which is a shame for NatWest, sponsor of the research by Warwick University Business School.

Salomon style

AS anyone familiar with the Guinness trial knows, there is life after scandal. The latest rehabilitee is Christopher Fitzmaurice, a Salomon Brothers bond trader who was suspended when the Treasury-auction bidding scandal hit the firm in 1991, costing it $290 million in reparations. Paul Mozer, Fitzmaurice's boss, left Salomon, while an internal report found that Fitzmaurice knew of at least two unauthorised T-bond bids, even though it uncovered no evidence of wrongdoing. But that was then. Last Friday he was elevated to managing director level on the government bond trading desk.

Inter cider

MERRYDOWN, seeking novel ways of beefing up the bottom line in a drinks market awash with cider, has struck lucky not once but twice. Its Two Dogs alcoholic lemonade sold by the bucketload at the height of the balmy summer. Now the company is cutting a dash on the Internet, with no fewer than 33,000 people downloading Merrydown's pages in one month and more than 11,000 taking part in an associated game. The pages, titled *The Dark Side of the Country*, depict an enigmatic world, set in the spooky countryside at dusk, with nearly 13 million different combinations of sounds and images available.



From the heart

SIR RICHARD Lloyd, chairman of Vickers and and deputy chairman of Hill Samuel, looks every part the long-distance runner, despite having just celebrated his 67th birthday. But he would be first to admit he has been deskbound for too long to run 26 miles around London next April. He is giving away the place in next year's Flora London Marathon he automatically receives in his other role as president of the British Heart Foundation. The search is now on for a younger runner prepared to raise money for the foundation. With an estimated 30,000 more applicants than places for the marathon, there should be no shortage of volunteers.

Timely ditty

WHAT a poetic lot. The City Diary is knee-deep in ditties. Craig Shuttleworth, of Gouldens, the City solicitor, is timely with his thoughts on accountancy:

The big accountant's partners flee
From unlimited liability
Even so they'd best beware
They all can't hide in Delaware.



ANATOLE KALETSKY

A question of priorities

Socialism, Nye Bevan used to say, is "the language of priorities". If so, then Britain's taxpayers should be praying for a socialist government. Measured against Nye Bevan's standard, the failure of the Major Government is easy to understand: the Tories, since 1992, have proved incapable of taking difficult decisions, or to use the managerial jargon favoured by ministers these days, they have forgotten how to prioritise.

Yesterday this message was conveyed with his usual charm and frankness by William Waldegrave, Chief Secretary to the Treasury. Trying to explain to the Commons Treasury Committee why the vaunted Budget spending cuts had resulted in paltry savings of only £3.2 billion, he produced a paper he claimed showed the cuts were really worth £6.8 billion.

Why then was this money not available for distribution in lower taxes? The answer, said Mr Waldegrave, was that more than half of his total cuts was needed to pay for unplanned growth in areas of "unavoidable priority spending". The total of such "priority" spending next year will be £3.6 billion. Some of the new priorities were proudly announced in the Budget — an extra £900 million for education, £600 million for health and long-term care and £50 million for extra police. But what of the remaining £2 billion? The Chancellor made no mention of the other "priority" departments that he will shower with new money next year: £1.44 billion extra for social security; £130 million for Northern Ireland; £100 million for Civil Service costs; £230 million for local authorities; and £100 million for other departments.

None of this extra spending has ever been mentioned as a priority by the Government, yet here we have far more largesse than for health and education combined. In fact, the biggest beneficiary of this generosity is social security — the very programme the Government always claims to cut.

As Michael Saunders of Salomon Brothers showed last week in a circular aptly entitled *Social Security — the Cuckoo in the Nest*, social security spending has overshot Treasury limits by at least £1 billion in each of the past four years, even though these limits have been steadily raised. As the paper notes, "benefits have taken a hugely disproportionate share of recent gains in public spending".

Since 1990, "non-cyclical" social security payments — items such as disability payments, pensions and lone-parent benefits — which account for just one-quarter of total government spending have absorbed two-thirds of the total *extra* resources available. With social security growing like Topsy, there is precious little room to expand other spending programmes, never mind cutting taxes.

This growth has had nothing directly to do with the weakness of the economy, with demographic changes or with the high level of unemployment, all of which have been taken into account in the Treasury's spending plans. The main explanation for the overshoot is the unexpectedly high cost of a benefit introduced in 1992 — the Disability Living Allowance.

The cost of this allowance, which is far more generous than the benefits it replaced, has risen from £3.1 billion in 1994-95 to £3.8 billion this year and is now expected to keep growing by £600 million, or 15 per cent, annually in each of the next four years. By next year, the *increase* in DLA spending alone will be equivalent to 1p on the standard tax rate.

There is nothing wrong with the Government spending more on social benefits for the disabled and raising taxes to do so, if that is the democratic will. What is odd, however, is that this should be happening under a government that claims to be dedicated to cutting social spending and has unleashed its most right-wing minister — Peter Lilley — to throw teenagers and single mothers off the welfare rolls.

Teenage scroungers are guaranteed to raise jeers at a Tory conference, while the disabled evoke sighs of sympathy. But this is no way to set social priorities or to run a Government. Come back, Nye Bevan, all is forgiven.

BUSINESS LETTERS

Regulation not working in the interests of the client

From K. D. Boyd

Sir, I did enjoy your indignation at the practices in my profession (Pennington, December 7). In 58 years on this planet, I have yet to discover a profession that acts in its clients's interests.

Accountants preserve their reputation with the Inland Revenue, charge by the hour, but make no undertaking as to performance. Solicitors are happy to litigate, yet handing over power to a third party is fraught with dangers. The British justice system confers no guarantee on a litigant even if he is in the right. Doctors reach for the prescription pad, doling out poisons as often as cures because that relieves them of immediate pressure. A gentler, softer approach, such as homeopathy, would leave the population healthier but could result in fewer doctors.

The common factor among professions is that the population pays in one way or another. I do not in any way condone the practices *Which?* spelt out, but the financial regulatory regime supports the regulator not the consumer. There is too much of the wrong sort of regulation, which offers jobs to the regulator, not addresses the real issues. The new regulatory regime was introduced in 1988 and scandals proliferate, not because the regulator knew what he was doing, far from it, but because when cash flow recedes, as in a recession, fraud sticks out.

Here we are in 1995, and all you can say is get tougher. Our profession faces the toughest of regulatory regimes yet old practices continue. Your answer is old remedies, but they too have not worked. It is time to rethink our approach, not to retry discredited concepts of regulation. Isn't insanity repetitive actions hoping for a different result?

Yours faithfully,
K. D. BOYD,
Boyd & Associates,
The Oast House,
Holt Pound,
Farnham, Surrey.

When a merger weighs heavy with shareholders

From J. S. Thomas

Sir, The proposed get-together of the companies RTZ and CRA produced for my wife, who is a very small preference shareholder in the former, a mail delivery of 2lb 6oz of paper in a bursting envelope.

There were no less than 353 pages of financial and other information and a seven-page letter from the chairman trying to summarise it.

Has the business world gone mad? Or is it me?

Yours faithfully,
J. S THOMAS,
Drovers Cottage,
Groombridge,
Tunbridge Wells,
Kent.

Letters to the Business and Finance section of The Times can be sent by fax on 0171-782 5112.

Reviving fond memories of The Strand Palace in all its former glory

From Mr Donald Reeves

Sir, Your piece by Lindsay Cook (Hidden Assets, November 25) with the pictures of the splendid one-time entrance hall of The Strand Palace, evoked in me waves of intense nostalgia.

My first encounter with this magnificent art-deco feature was in 1936, when my parents took me to the hotel for a weekend and to visit the Ideal Home Exhibition.

Of all the vivid impressions I received as a ten-year-old on this, my first trip to the Great Wen, The Strand Palace and its foyer were the most awe-inspiring. Here, I knew, was the epitome of rich and sophisticated living (I believe the charges were 11/6d each for room and breakfast).

Another part of Joe Lyons's empire, that we went to for supper, was the Brasserie at the Coventry Street Corner House — a pastiche of a Spanish piazza that in my book ran The Strand a very close second for sheer bravura. By comparison, the architectural splendours of such buildings as St Paul's, Buckingham Palace and Olympia seemed almost commonplace to my naive young mind.

About 25 years ago, I made another nostalgic overnight visit to The Strand Palace and it had lost little of its magic. I feel sure that if Mrs Polizzi could persuade the Forte board to restore the foyer to its proper setting, it might, with the current revival in popularity of the genre, win instant acclaim.

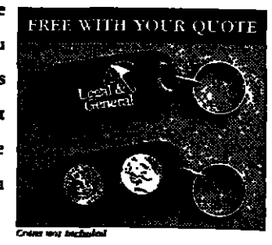
As an aside, I wonder whether any other reader remembers the extraordinary mechanical writing device formerly in use at reception. After one's account had been settled, a docket was written out at the desk and, by an ingenious system of levers and cables, an exact facsmile was reproduced at the porter's lodge to permit release of one's baggage.

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Restrictive covenants come under scrutiny

BY BRIAN COLLETT

THE Telecottage Association, which represents people who work from home, is investigating cases of people who are prevented from setting up a business in their property or who have restrictions imposed on them in their deeds.

The association, which has recorded several instances of businesses being halted by covenants, is appealing to its members to send in details of similar case histories.

Alan Denbigh, executive director of the association, which promotes the use of technology-equipped centres by small businesses, said: "We want to know the scale of the problem. It may be more widespread than we think."

Mr Denbigh is already in touch with one of his members, Peter Fowler, a solicitor in Wimborne, Dorset, who regularly sees the problem.

Covenants have been placed on properties in the past to prevent householders from disturbing their neighbours.

A typical example of an undesirable business would be car repairing. Nuisance would be caused by dust, fumes, clattering machinery and continual traffic.

Critics of covenants, however, argue that none of these annoyances come from today's home-based high-tech business owner, or even an antique furniture restorer in a back room.

Mr Denbigh has recently received a complaint from a worker stopped from conducting a business at his tied house by a restrictive covenant.

Such covenants can be in the hands of a company or local authority, or even a company or individual no longer holding any other interest in the property.

Some people may not even realise their properties are bound by covenants.

The covenant owner can demand a price for waiving the restriction. Mr Fowler said: "I object to somebody taking money for breach of covenant, possibly somebody miles away in an estate office."

Covenants can be removed or modified by a land tribunal, but this procedure is lengthy and some businesses may find it hard to afford even the few hundred pounds that it costs.

Charms open the door to worldwide exports

A former store buyer is now offering a little something for Christmas puddings, **Sandy Bisp** writes

JULIAN HERBERT



Bob Heyes with the silver charms that he produces to the delight of Japanese collectors

Low silver prices in the early 1980s prompted Bob Heyes to leave his job as central buyer to a department store chain and stake his future on lucky charms. Last year, production nudged 250,000, mainly for export.

"Still a precious metal, silver became more affordable in the aftermath of what was known as the Bunker Hunt price crisis of 1979 to 1980," says Mr Heyes, who had no previous experience in the silver market. "I knew I had to come up with something that couldn't be copied in the Far East and sterling silver's hallmark provided a safeguard."

Banks were unresponsive to his ideas for tapping into the lucrative Christmas gift market. Only National Westminster offered overdraft facilities when Mr Heyes, now 49, and his wife, Jenny, a nurse, set up the Christmas Heirloom Company ten years ago. After a £2,000 outlay on silver, their first "Christmas nostalgia" line was a set of six traditional solid sterling silver Christmas pudding charms.

Fortnum & Mason became Mr Heyes's first customer and the London store now sells the boxed keepsakes — a bachelor's button, a thimble, a bell, a horseshoe, a wishbone and a tiny coin — for £12.50. Small enough to pile on a penny, each of the six charms is about half an inch long.

Next came miniature silver Christmas tree decorations. "An angel, a trumpet ... that sort of thing," says Mr Heyes.

Right at the start, he was lucky to have introductions to a precious-metal caster in Birmingham's Hockley Jewellery Quarter and to a "fiendishly good modeller" in metal. Both became business partners.

"You get much better definition using metal instead of wax, as a lot of modellers do," says Mr Heyes, for whom attention to detail is paramount since many of the silver charms have moving parts. Some open and close, like the minuscule oyster shell that reveals a "pearl". Another, a tiny grand piano, has a lid that can be raised.

In 1991, Japanese buyers at a Birmingham exhibition fell for Mr Heyes's work in a big way. Business took off, meriting the introduction of 20 new charms a year, and the full range now exceeds 100. Additions are launched at Tokyo's gift fairs each February and September.

"The Japanese love small things and have taken our detailed novelty charms and moving parts to their hearts," says Mr Heyes. "They wear them on earrings, neckchains and even rings we produce for them."

The Charm Store range is sold in Europe and the US through distributors and in the UK by retailers and through mail order.

This year, Mr Keyes embarked on a project to produce superior quality silver jewellery, and Lisa Hendry, a designer-jeweller, was commissioned to create the hallmarked Galatea collection, whose strong flowing shapes bear semi-precious stones such as turquoise, coral and peridot. No piece costs more than £60.

☐ *Bob Heyes is on 01483 894001.*

Study of failures says too few proprietors seek a helping hand

BY RODNEY HOBSON

BAD management rather than bad luck causes the downfall of small businesses, research published today by the Management School at Imperial College, London, indicates. A common fault is the owners' reluctance to seek help when they get into difficulties.

Sue Birley, who did the research, talked to accountants and bank managers of 486 independent owner-managed businesses. She found that a third had not asked for help before folding.

Those that did seek assistance usually went to the bank, rather than the accountant, and, in spite of their troubles, only 11 per cent who asked for help were refused. Most were given what they asked for, although some were offered alternative forms of assistance.

About a third sought more finance, but the most common requests were for help with accounting systems, assessing viability or writing a business plan.

Professor Birley says: "Perhaps the most important finding from this study is that, in a number of cases where bankers and accountants were not consulted, the failure could have been avoided.

"Owner managers are often single-minded and very independent. They have to be to survive the early ravages of the market place. However, many do not have the range of management skills to grow the business successfully, nor are they inclined to take remedial advice."

Financial advisers said failure had often been caused by autocratic owners making emotional decisions, not seeking outside help or resisting help that was offered. Many had brought down their firms by overpaying themselves.

Businesses studied in the research, sponsored by Stoy Hayward and the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales, ranged from a single self-employed owner to a 300-employee company. Most had been trading for fewer than five years and employed no more than four people. Sales were generally less than £250,000.

The failed companies had been trading for up to 146 years. Professor Birley said: "Most were small and young, but age is no defence against failure. Experience and track record do not allow either the owners or their advisers the luxury of taking their eye off the ball."

Among owners who could claim bad luck, 23 were hit by bad publicity, 37 by theft or fraud and 23 by marriage breakdowns.

☐ The report is £40 from Julie Parsons, BDO Stoy Hayward, 0171-486 5888.



Birley: failure can be avoided



"It'd be quicker to deliver it by hand!"

BRIEFINGS

Moyola Precision Engineering of Castledawson, Co Londonderry, has won the best small-business award made annually by Parcelforce. Raymond Semple, managing director, has set up a programme with schools to persuade teenagers to consider engineering as a career. David Hopkins, of Audio Design Services, Stockport, Greater Manchester, won small business personality of the year and TA McMahon Optometrists, of Falkirk, Central region, won the customer-service award.

☐ Partnership Sourcing, set up by the Confederation of British Industry and Department of Trade and Industry to develop long-term relationships between purchasers and suppliers, has produced a booklet, *Partnering for Success*, for smaller companies. From Partnership Sourcing, Centre Point, 103 New Oxford Street, London WC1A 1DU, price £9.

☐ The Forum of Private Business has issued its 24,000 members with guidelines on responding to unsolicited approaches by consultants offering advice on the availability of grants.

☐ A new award for small and medium-sized enterprises maintaining a competitive edge has been launched by East Midlands Competitive Partnership, an umbrella organisation including Tecs, chambers of commerce, Business Links, the CBI and Government Office for the East Midlands. Contact: Government Office for the East Midlands, Belgrave Centre, Stanley Place, Talbot Street, Nottingham NG1 5GG.

☐ The 1996 Country Living Fair at The Business Design Centre, Islington, from February 27 to March 3 will have 300 exhibitors.

☐ Independent small retailers will be encouraged to boost profits by investing in technology to improve stock control and sales analysis, at a series of regional seminars on electronic data interchange between suppliers and retailers. The project is promoted by British Chambers of Commerce and General Electronic Information Service.

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Mr. Tim McLeod, International Planned Parenthood Federation, Arab World Regional Office, Regent's College, Inner Circle, Regent's Park, London, NW1 4NS. United Kingdom.

Requests for a complete set of bidding documents can only be made until 12 January 1996. Subsequent bids must be received at the above address on or before 5.00 p.m. London time, on 12 February 1996. Bids will be opened at 10.00 a.m. on 13 February 1996.

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BANKS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
2337½	2137½	ABN-AMRO	2343½	-6¼	4.5	10.5
654	413	Abbey Nat	638	+12	3.8	17.8
368	250	Allied Irish	357	-3	4.0	10.4
218	198	Aus New Z	216	+2	5.4	
4425	2531¼	Bank America	4358¼	-12¼		
285	191½	Bank Scotland	274	-2	2.8	12.1
817½	557½	Barclays	772	+9	3.6	10.6
488	288	BK of Ireland	475	-2	3.6	9.6
525	418	Cater Allen	435	-6	6.6	7.2
4718¼	2450	Citicorp	4568¼			
310½	216¼	Close Bros	324		3.4	14.4
£162½	£129¼	Commerzbk	£153½	+43¼	3.5	
1375	993¼	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1259¼	-6¼	0.4	
3231¼	2775	Deutsche Bk	3137½	+6¼	2.4	
881¼	548¼	Espirito Santo	883¼	-18¼	5.9	8.0
1611	1158¼	Fuji Bank Y	1426½	-½	0.4	
490	395	Greene Inst	453		6.2	14.6
253	180	Hambros	233		4.6	
1012	589	HSBC	999	+3½	3.5	13.0
990	578	HSBC HK	977½	+1	3.6	13.2
393	228	Irish Perm	393		3.1	9.1
463	363	Joseph (L)	458		5.1	25.6
145	85	King Shaxson	137½	-½	8.2	10.7
899	530	Lloyds	854	+13	3.8	13.5
592	479	Nat Aust Bk	581	-2	6.9	
697	454	Nat West	665	+9	4.3	10.3
3000	2150	Ottoman Bank	2500		6.5	3.4
67	44	Rea Brothers	46		7.7	18.4
619	373	Royal Bk Scot	584	+11	3.5	13.0
1478	908	Schroders	1335	+2	1.5	19.0
1180	823	Schroders N/V	1140		1.6	16.2
111	81	Singer & Fried	103	-½	4.2	11.5
625	346	Stand Chart	595	+4	2.0	14.2
417	317	TSB	412	+6	3.5	14.4
121	70	Union	103		3.6	
£149¼	9043¼	Wells Fargo	£143¾	+75	2.1	
270	211	Westpac	265½	-1½	5.1	
295	200	Woolwich	283		5.3	15.3

BREWERIES

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
243	143	Accol Hldgs	240	+2		0.5
727	487	Bass	720	+5	4.0	
449	239	Boddington	444		2.6	22.8
192	137	Burtonwd Brwr	176		3.8	17.0
187	137	Eldridge P A	182	+2	3.1	
433	336	Fuller Sm A	414		2.6	17.6
544	402	Greenalls Grp	536	+3	3.4	
658	468	Greene King	633	+4	2.9	16.8
297	240	Hardy Hansn	285	-1	4.5	
160	150	Heavitree	155		4.5	10.9
3425	3048	Hall J	3113		2.2	16.7
347	219	Marstons	316		3.1	15.9
321	266	Mercn Thmpt	308	+1½	3.0	14.5
543	391½	Morland	531	+1½	2.8	
8¼	6½	Paramount	7		3.9	11.2
606	307	Regent Inns	606	+1	1.4	23.9
2287½	1287½	SA Breweries	2287½	-6¼	1.6	32.6
640	482	Scot & New	603	-7½	3.9	16.7
337	250	Scot & New P/P	330			
218	173	Tom Cobleigh	195		1.8	31.6
309	211	Vaux Group	264	+1	4.7	14.9
640	449	Wetherspoon JD	640		1.6	35.0
679	521	Whitbread	663	+12	3.9	16.4
585	483	Wolvrhmptn D	548	-1	3.6	
310	186	Yates Bros	305		1.3	27.0
475	425	Young 'A'	436		4.3	17.7

DISTRIBUTORS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
107½	66¼	ADI Lest	94		5.8	9.7
595	460	Aston & Harvey	465	-10	5.3	6.1
21	13	Alexander	15	+½	5.8	24.7
113	83	Appleyard	93	+2	8.1	10.0
4½	3¼	Ass Br Eng	3½		2.1	28.5
623	518	BCS Group	545	3½	4.5	15.6
39	31	Banct	38			
21	15½	Bearing Power	17	-½	9.2	
29	18	Bogod 'A'	26		3.4	9.2
453	345	Bramner	430	-1	3.9	16.5
21	10½	Bridgend Grp	17½		1.4	
95	73	Brit Fittings	81		4.9	12.3
270	215	Caffyns	250		5.9	16.9
89	54	Central Mo	75		4.6	20.4
61	35	Cook (DC)	59		3.6	8.5
320	220	Cowie	295	-1	4.0	12.7
155	135	Dag Motors	128		7.0	10.6
593	503	Dennans El	504		1.9	11.1
531	399	Diploma	410	+2	4.4	
355	236	Electrocomp	350	-6	2.1	24.1
254	153	Eurodis Elec	251	+17	2.1	17.4
135	64	Eurodata	71	-1	14.4	4.1
135	97	European Mtrl	97	-½	6.7	8.3
449	280	Evans Halshaw	286	-1	6.8	8.9
711	513	Farnell Elect	711	+12	1.7	20.7
72	48	Fife Indmar	66		6.2	10.8
24	15	Gardiner	18	-½	5.7	7.9
26	16	Glendevelon	33		1.1	
103	61	Grainger	86			
207	148	Harris (Philip)	201		3.3	14.3
207	142	Headlam	200		4.6	12.6
554	263	Inchcape	497	-2	5.5	18.5
137	81	Holdens Tech	134		5.6	25.5
163	88	ISA Intl	153		1.3	16.7
433	200	Instep	273	+16½	8.4	20.2
66	53	Jacks (Wm)	60		1.6	11.4
287	142	Kwik-Fit	179		3.2	15.3
358	254	Lex Service	292		6.2	15.6
195	146	Lookers	149		6.4	8.2
22	9	Mileya Grp	12		5.0	16.2
9¼	5	Middlesex	8¼	-½	0.8	18.9
71	36	Motiones	37			5.2
534	330	Nortam	476		1.9	16.9
258	78	Northamber	251	+6	0.9	20.1
156	125	PCT	137		7.0	9.8
325	225	Pentagon	274		3.8	14.3
166	123	Perry Gn	147	-2	6.5	11.1
146	126	Quick Group	140		5.1	11.0
198	100	REA	185		2.7	22.0
3¼	2¼	Reuce	3			
73	48	Ranson	56		2.8	11.4
6¼	3¼	Ross Gn	3¼			
62¼	37½	SSP Indl	61½		2.4	20.5
17½	8	Satva	12	+1		6.8
74¼	38	TLS	70		3.3	11.9
266	226	Time Products	249	-1	4.6	14.6
275	151	Vardy (Reg)	275		2.6	17.5
325	240	Wholesale Figs	325		4.5	20.3
80	57½	Wyckham	57½	-½	1.7	13.7
93	56½	[illegible]	85		1.8	
117	68	Young (H)	117	+2	4.3	

ELECTRICITY

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
754¼	437½	East Midlands	729	+28½	5.0	9.9
974	535	Eastern Grp	974		3.6	13.0
742½	411	London Elec	698	+29½	6.1	7.9
1038	621	Manweb	1026		2.9	14.0
785	441½	Midlands	785	+17½	6.0	9.8
561	421½	National Power	455	-4	4.5	8.4
271	158½	Nat Power P/P	163	-5	4.4	9.7
703¼	442	Northern Elec	583	-1½	7.1	5.9
477	313	Nthn Ireland	426	-8	4.3	9.3
1202	611	Norweb	1021		3.5	10.7
609	457½	PowerGen	524	-1	4.1	9.6
299	176½	PowerGen P/P	210	-4	4.0	11.6
379	303	Hydro-Elect	358½	+1½	4.9	10.4
385½	306	Scottish Power	367	-2	4.9	10.7
524	244½	Seeboard	520	+6½	3.5	11.2
937	581½	Sth Wales	937	+6½	4.8	9.8
933	548	Southern Elec	933		4.8	10.2
741½	465	Yorkshire Elec	698	+11½	5.4	8.8

PHARMACEUTICALS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
2100	425	Brit Biotech	1505	-25		
345	103	Cantab Pharms	338	-2		
614	233½	Celltech	531	-20		
375	92½	Chiroscience	362	-5		
188	31	Cortecs	161	-8		
258	103	Ferafis	254		1.2	
912½	587	Glaxo Wellcome	890	+8½	4.2	20.4
294	162	Medeva	257	+2	1.8	16.5
719	323	Scotia	589	-11		
714	444	Smithkline	697	+3½	2.4	20.7
703	416	Smkline Ut	690	+4½	2.4	20.5
1237½	840	Zeneca	1291	-2½	2.7	26.3

SPIRITS, WINES & CIDERS

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
566	476½	Allied Domecq	501	+5½	5.9	20.2
493½	390	Bulmer (HP)	494		3.0	16.7
146	99	Burn Stewart	141½	-½	4.4	30.4
461½	352	Grand Met	450	+5½	4.2	15.5
536	404	Guinness	461	+9½	3.9	14.3
445	327½	Highland Distl	335	+1	2.9	15.2
217	175	Macallan-Glen	191		0.9	42.4
710	600	Macdn Mtn 'A'	675	-17½	2.2	17.6
681	532	Mathew Clark	655	+5	4.0	
140	61	Minydun Wl	124	+1	2.0	
259	129	Taunton Cider	246		3.6	24.0

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

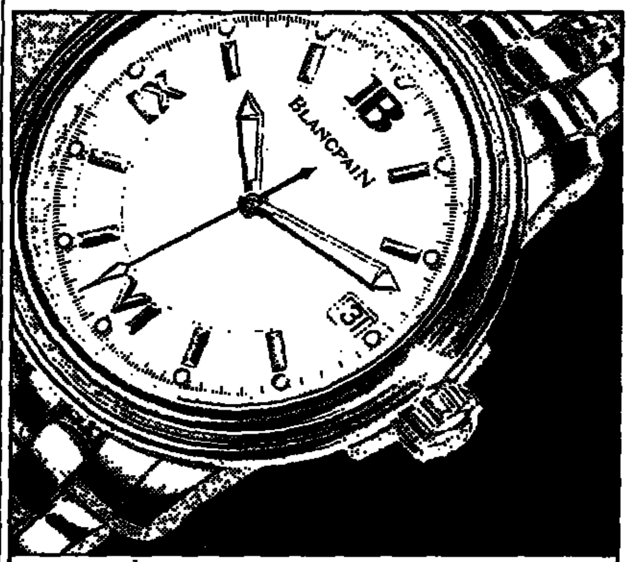
1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
415½	344	BT	348	-1	6.5	12.3
477	350½	Cable Wireless	441	-2	2.6	18.7
209	165½	General Cable	191			
147	116½	NYNEX Cable	121			
1756	1475	Securicor	1705		0.3	37.3
1130	900	Securicor 'A'	913	-5	0.5	30.0
1058	728	Security Serv	930		0.9	23.7
195	161	TeleWest	163	-1		
285½	177½	Vodafone	229	+4	2.0	28.1

WATER

1995 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
603	443	Anglian	584	-5	5.8	8.9
366	295	Mid Kent Hldgs	353	+½	4.8	9.5
641	467½	North West	589	+1	5.7	7.5
1175	676	Northumbrian	1168		3.2	9.1
685	475	Severn Trent	669	+1	5.7	7.9
2325	1855	South Staffs	2325		3.9	13.5
555	459	South West	489	-½	7.2	6.8
731	517	Southern	683		4.9	8.5
575	456	Thames	565	+6	5.8	7.7
880	592½	Welsh	735	+7	7.2	8.8
1091	1001	Welsh Cn Pf	1087½	+½	9.4	
361	256½	Wessex	334	+1	5.2	7.0
677½	472	Yorkshire	612	-3	5.8	8.0

Source: Finstat

⊘ USM, # Price at suspension, ↓ Ex dividend, ‡ Ex scrip, ▲ Ex rights issue, ▼ Ex all, § Ex capital distribution, * Figures or report awaited. ·· No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 Index.



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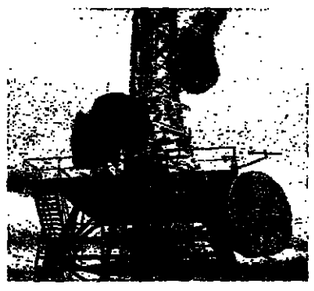
THE BASQUE COUNTRY
A PARTNER OF PROMISE

10 REASONS WHY THE BASQUE COUNTRY IS TODAY AN ATTRACTIVE, UP-TO-DATE PROPOSITION:



A STRATEGIC GEOGRAPHICAL SETTING

A vital link in the communications axis between Lisbon and Stockholm, the Basque Country has Spain's leading merchant shipping port and Europe's deepest docking facilities (32 metres). The region also has three airports, 322 kilometres of motorway and the only direct Spanish connection with Europe's high-speed rail network.



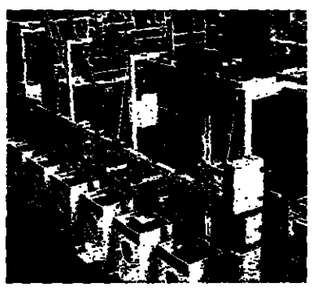
A NETWORK OF INTELLIGENT HIGHWAYS

The Basque Country has a latest -generation micro-wave network and a broad-band optical fibre trunk network covering 85% of the Basque population and all university campuses and industrial centres.



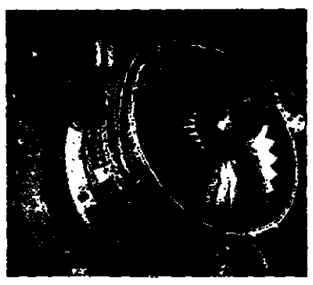
BROAD-BASED, DIVERSIFIED POWER INFRASTRUCTURE

Efficiency and savings programmes have enabled the Basque Country as a whole to reduce energy consumption by 14% since 1980. The area currently depends on oil for 36.7% of the energy it needs. Power sources have been diversified in recent years, with particular attention being paid to natural gas, which has its own gas field and modern distribution network.



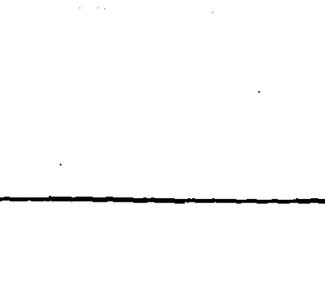
SPAIN'S INDUSTRIAL POWERHOUSE

Much of Spain's production in a number of strategic sectors comes from the Basque Country: machine-tools, the automotive ancillary industry, capital goods and the iron and steel industry. The Basque Country is also home to the Mondragón Corporación Cooperativa (MCC), the world's largest industrial cooperative group, and Iberdrola, Europe's fifth largest power generating company.



INVESTMENT INCENTIVES AND GUARANTEES

Treasury bonds issued by the Basque Government have been given an Aa2 rating by American ratings agency Moody's and AA+ by Standard & Poor's. Of the incentives offered for investment, among the most attractive are the deduction of 20% on fixed assets and new materials and a 40% tax cut on production investments.



TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH APPLIED TO INDUSTRY

The Basque Country has seven Research Centres employing more than 900 professionals; the largest science and technology park in northeastern Spain; engineering firms and other companies involved in international research projects: LHC particle accelerator (CERN-Geneva); the European Space Agency and NASA; the EURECA (European Retrievable Carrier) Platform, currently in orbit and the Polar Platform, in collaboration with the International Freedom Station in Columbus.



ONE OF EUROPE'S LEADING FINANCIAL CENTRES

The Banco Bilbao Vizcaya, Spain's leading bank in terms of the volume of savings managed, the Bolsa de Bilbao, the country's second busiest Stock Exchange, Elkargi, the first mutual guarantee company in Spain, and Luzaro, the country's first mezzanine finance company, are all based in the Basque Country.

HUMAN RESOURCES, THE BASQUE COUNTRY'S MOST IMPORTANT RAW MATERIAL



There are two universities in the Basque Country, one of which, Deusto, is Spain's most famous seat of learning. Students can choose from 22 faculties, 8 technical and 3 Higher colleges and schools. The Basque Country also has 172 vocational training centres.



A UNIQUE, AGE-OLD CULTURE

Euskera, the Basque language. Part of mankind's linguistic heritage, *Euskera* is the oldest language in Europe, a survival from the pre-Indo-European era.



AN UNRIVALLED NATURAL SETTING

The UNESCO recently declared the Gernika estuary a "Biosphere Reserve". According to the 1992 Economic Report on the Spanish Autonomous Communities, the Basque Country has the most complete environmental protection infrastructure in all Spain.

QUALITY MAKES THE DIFFERENCE
BASQUE COUNTRY

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هكذا من الأصل

Michael Knipe introduces a special report on the Basque country. Autonomy from Madrid is allowing it to revitalise its economy

An act of faith in the Basque future

The opening in Bilbao, a month ago, of a £500 million 18-mile long underground railway system, designed with his customary elan by Sir Norman Foster, marked the latest but by no means the final stage in the audacious economic regeneration of the Basque country.

The transparent caterpillar-style canopies of the underground station entrances in the city, which is the industrial and commercial centre of the region, are fast becoming as symbolically Basque as the distinctive beret still worn by some local inhabitants.

The concrete-clad stations are certainly a visible manifestation of the benefits of the Basque country being allowed to raise its own taxes — a distinction shared by only one other of Spain's 17 autonomous regions. It is making the most of this financial independence from Madrid by pursuing a remarkably ambitious programme of urban investment in sea and air ports, road and rail systems, business development and cultural facilities.

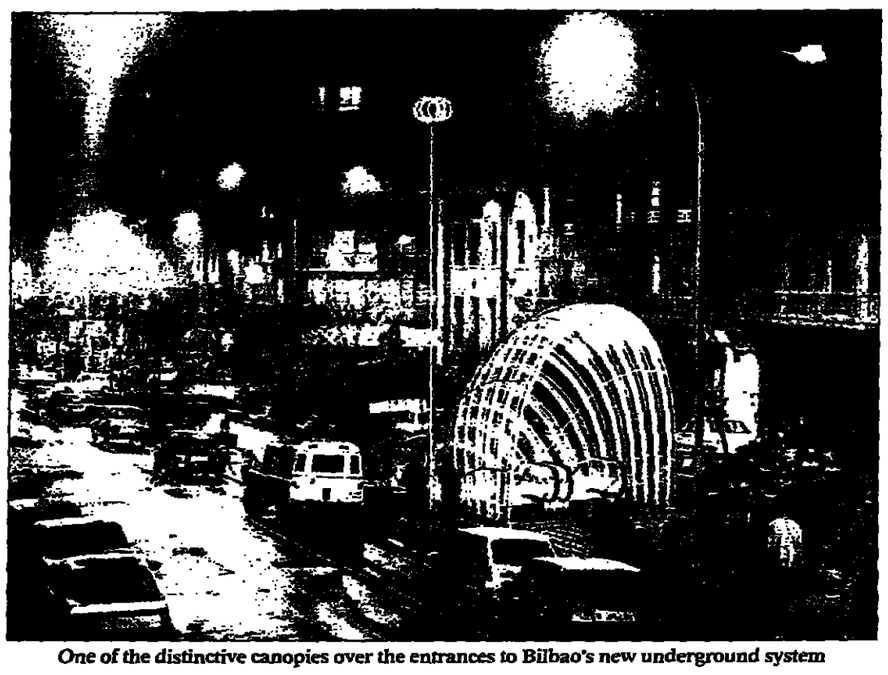
Industrialists, business people and investors tend to dismiss the problem of the terrorist campaign by Eta, the Basque separatist movement, as little more than a distraction, pointing out that the numbers who have died in terrorist incidents in the Basque country in a 34-year period — about 800 — is less than the numbers killed in one year in cities like New York, Detroit or Soweto. Only about one quarter of the people are Basque speakers, but there is no division in the community as there is in Northern Ireland. And, furthermore, the Basques say that statistically the crime rate is only half of that recorded in France, Italy and The Netherlands.

Whatever business has been lost because of the problem of terrorism, Basque country residents have no doubt that their future lies in winning greater autonomy from Madrid and promoting the Basque identity abroad. They identify with Europe and talk of Bilbao being at the centre of an Atlantic Arc running from Lisbon to Stockholm and a focal point of land, sea and air traffic. Several projects, including early work on the underground railway system and the creation of a technology park at Zamudio, a suburb of Bilbao, began without Vitoria, the administrative capital, waiting for endorsement from Madrid and amounted, said one Bilbao-based British businessman, to an act of faith in the future that would not have been possible if the Basque leaders had been dependent on Madrid.

"We are no longer at the mercy of the central government," said Juan Miguel Bilbao, Deputy Minister of Finance in the Basque Government. "We can decide on our own priorities and proceed with them."

And that the Basque Government is most certainly doing. The population of the region is only just over two million. But the authorities have embarked on a programme of infrastructure improvement that, on a per capita basis, makes the lottery-enhanced redevelopment programme in Britain seem positively modest.

In Bilbao itself a huge new public transport service terminal is being built, known as the Abando Passenger Interchange, which when completed will connect rail, local bus, intercity coach and underground services. It will be housed under a 125-metre roof span designed by Michael Wilford, a partner of the late Sir James Stirling.



One of the distinctive canopies over the entrances to Bilbao's new underground system

The polluted river Nervión, which runs through the city, is being cleaned up and two miles of its derelict docks and railway track are to be pedestrianised. At one end work has already begun on a museum designed by the radically modern Californian architect, Frank Gehry, which will become the European home of the Guggenheim collection. At the other end a convention and performing arts centre is to be built surrounded by a riverside park.

The port facilities at Bilbao — the largest in Spain — are also being relocated and expanded, enabling it to double its capacity. The extension involves reclaiming some 3.5 million square metres from the sea adding nearly eight kilometres (five miles) of docks and jetties and giving six times the depth of water for shipping. By moving the port facilities to the enlarged harbour outside the old port, 300,000 square metres of prime land has been recovered in the heart of the city. A third of this is to be set aside for parks and the rest used for a business centre, a new shopping mall, hotel and housing.

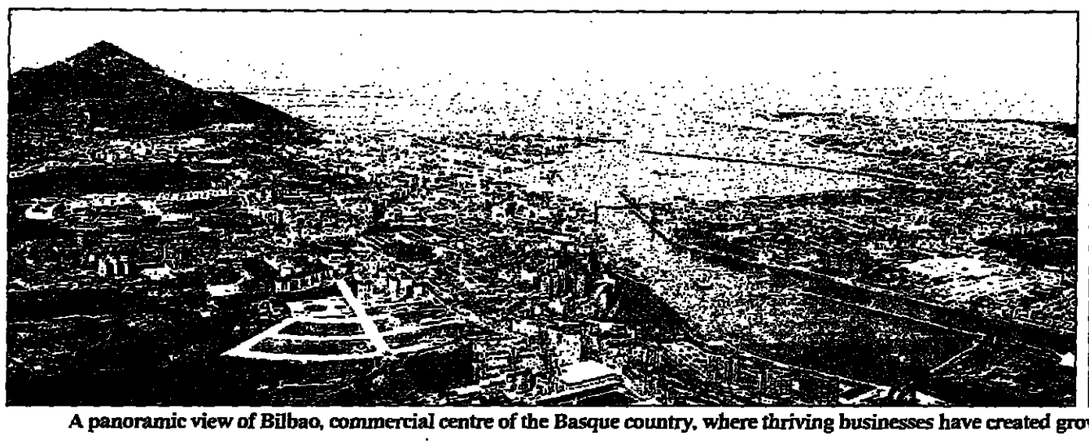
Bilbao airport is being enlarged and a new terminal added. A new motorway link between Vitoria and the coastal resort of San Sebastian is being constructed; a network of technology parks is being established adjacent to the three biggest cities; the gas distribution system is being expanded to tap into gas supplies from France; and a network of fibre-optics is being installed that will provide access to the information superhighway.

The purpose of all this is to revitalise the economic strength of the Basque country — which is still the backbone of the Spanish economy — and to regain for Bilbao some of the glamour and affluence it experienced in the early years of the century when its industrial prosperity brought it one of the highest standards of living in Europe.

Despite its smokestack industrial heritage and the pollution fumes that still, in some parts, pervade it, the Basque countryside consists of green rolling hills, pine forests and craggy mountains, while Bilbao is an elegant city that retains a strong sense of its traditional style.

Bilbao today is conscious of having lost much of its national prestige to Barcelona and Seville and the city authorities are determined to reassert its reputation as an international metropolis, basing it on both the city's newly developed high-tech industrial strengths and its vigorous cultural activity.

The overall cost of all these infrastructure projects has been estimated at £3 billion. The money comes from central government aid, Basque Government borrowing, private-sector investment and funding from the European Union. At its heart is the money raised in taxes, of which, over the past five years, only 7.6 per cent has had to be transferred to the central government for services such as defence costs.



A panoramic view of Bilbao, commercial centre of the Basque country, where thriving businesses have created growth, exports and attracted investment



Helping industry to forge a future

From recession to rebirth, steel and tool-making to aircraft and automation

The Basque country, which suffered severely from the effects of the international recession and a need to restructure its traditional industries at the beginning of the decade, is now experiencing a sharp turnaround in its fortunes, *Michael Knipe writes*.

The region's economy grew by 2.7 per cent last year, outstripping Spain's overall growth rate by 0.7 per cent. Further improvements are predicted this year, with an expected 4 per cent rate of growth. Industrial production grew by 9 per cent last year and the value of foreign trade leapt by 30 per cent, fuelled by the export of manufactured goods and a devaluation of the Spanish currency.

So far, however, economic improvements have had little impact on the unemployment rate, which remains stubbornly at 22 per cent, only slightly less than the overall Spanish rate.

But foreign investment in the Basque country last year was the highest for ten years at 84,820 million pesetas (£451 million), a remarkable 77 per cent increase over the previous year. Most of this — 11 per cent — came from the United States, followed by The Netherlands and then Britain, which invested £34.7 million — 7.7 per cent of the total.

The Basque country has been the industrial powerhouse of Spain for more than 100 years and, despite a reduction by almost half in the steel-processing sector, is still responsible for 80 per cent of the country's iron and steel production, as well as 70 per cent of its motor vehicle components.

The Aceria Compacta de Bizhaia (ACB), a compact steelworks now being built and due to open next year, will be much smaller than its predecessor, the Altos Hornos de Vizcaya (AHV) but will be one of the two most modern compact works in Europe. The other crack troops of the Basque export sector are the machine-tool companies, which are responsible for 80 per cent of Spanish production.

Although there are only about 90 machine tool firms in the Basque country, with another 200 smaller specialist sub-contractors, the region is the world's 12th largest producer of machine tools, sending exports to 120 different countries. Per capita, the Basques are second only to Switzerland.

Machine-tool production acts as a bellwether for industrial activity, falling sharply in recessionary times and expanding rapidly when the economic climate changes. The Gulf War and the collapse of the communist regimes in Eastern Europe led to world production of machine tools falling from £31 billion to £19.2 billion between 1991 and 1994. In that period, Basque production fell by 50 per cent. But this year it has increased by 37 per cent and a similar rise is expected next year.

"We Basques have several strengths as machine tool-makers," said Alberto Ortueta of the Spanish Machine Tool Association. "We have specialist knowledge built up over generations, we don't neglect research and development, we know how to export our products and we like making machines. It tends to be a vocational industry and runs in families."

The machine-tool industry typifies how the Basques are transforming traditional industries by introducing sophisticated high-technology expertise. And while modernising heavy industries, they are diversifying steadily into newer, high-tech industries such as electronics, communications, biotechnology and aviation.

Central to this process has been the creation of seven technology centres specialising in research and development in areas such as design and manufacturing, metallic and non-metallic materials, telecommunications and data processing, and the development of technology parks in pleasant surroundings conveniently close to the built-up areas of Bilbao, Vitoria and San Sebastian.

The purpose of the parks is to promote technological and business innovations, and to encourage the development of cluster groups which can share expertise. One of the parks is spread over 370 acres in the town of Zamudio, just outside Bilbao. When it opened for business in 1989, the first company to move in was Industria de Turbo Propulsores (ITP), a company partly owned by Rolls-Royce, which manufactures aeronautical components.

It was soon joined by Gamesa Aeronautica, which assembles the wings and fuselages of the Brazilian Embraer EMB 145 aeroplane, and Israel Aircraft Industries' Astra executive jet. It has just signed a contract to assemble Canada's Sikorski 592 helicopters and is in the process of doubling its investment at Zamudio.

By the end of the decade the Basque authorities believe that the cluster of aeronautics plants led by Gamesa and ITP will have a workforce of 10,000 and a turnover of 100 billion million pesetas.

There are now 47 companies — 30 of them financed from abroad — involved in technologically advanced operations at the park. Among them is the European Software Institute.

Federico Bergareche Zurimendi, the president of the park's administration, said it sought companies involved in electronics, opto-electronics, telecommunications, industrial automation, environmental, energy or information technologies, particularly those which are active in research and development.

Generous incentives were offered, he said, to foreign investors by way of tax relief and support for job creation, vocational training, and research and development projects.

A grasp at the chance for a lasting peace

Firm coalition aims to bolster regional autonomy with arguments, not bullets

One of the great achievements of José Antonio Ardanza, the *lehendakari* or regional president of the autonomous Basque country — which the Basques call Euskadi — is that since his Basque Nationalist Party (PNV) was re-elected with a minority a year ago, he has put together a strong three-party coalition.

"Euskadi has been given political stability," says a senior source in the Basque Government. "The *lehendakari* obtained a tripartite accord that put a security curtain around the Basque region, and it is now being governed with cohesion."

After the death of the dictator General Franco 20 years ago, the new Spanish Constitution of 1978 established the right to autonomy of all nationalities and communities that make up the Spanish nation. "I shared my party's view in not approving the Constitution but later we always said we respected it," says Señor Ardanza, explaining that the PNV wanted the Basques' former powers restored.

Under the Statute of Guernica, ratified in a referendum, the Basques have been granted more powers of self-government than any other Spanish region.

The raising of taxes is once again done by the traditional *fueros*, the assemblies in three Basque provinces: Alava, Guipuzcoa and Vizcaya. Two thirds of the funds raised go to the regional government, the balance is shared between the provinces and town halls.

In addition to fiscal matters, the Basque parliament is now responsible for education, health, culture, housing, industrial development, the police force (the Ertzaintza) and the Basque language radio and television stations.



Unifier: José Antonio Ardanza

In October 1994, in the fifth regional elections since Euskadi gained autonomy, the Christian Democrat Basque Nationalist Party (PNV) returned 22 deputies to the 75-seat parliament, and a coalition government was formed with the Basque socialist party (PSE-PSOE), and the nationalist Eusko Alkartasuna (EA).

After more than ten years as *lehendakari*, Señor Ardanza, now 54, took the helm again, saying: "Society says it likes me because I am a tolerant, open, honest and straightforward man, open to dialogue."

He was born to a working-class family in Elorrio, speaks fluent Basque and worked as a lawyer. A close aide says the main objectives of his government are to take advantage of the improving economic situation, develop the Statute of Guernica and advance the peace process.

Señor Ardanza admits the Basques have gained more transfers of power than any other region in Spain. But he urgently wants to see transfers from Madrid of labour and social security responsibilities.

He also wants the central government's official blessing to start negotiating direct with the Eta terrorist organisation. In 34 years of violence in the name of Basque separatism, 75 have been kidnapped and hundreds of businessmen forced to pay "revolutionary tax", in addition to he 800 who have died. Only recently, after co-operation from France and important arrests, have the killings become sporadic.

The PNV wants to make peace with Eta but at present, under an all-party agreement, negotiations can only be initiated by Madrid. Yet with central government currently facing a judicial investigation into who organised death squads that killed 27 Eta suspects a decade ago, the time is hardly propitious.

A Basque government official says: "Only Eta wants to negotiate with Madrid because for them, the conflict is one between Euskadi and the Spanish people. But the heart of the matter is the inability of these separatists to recognise that Basque society is plural. The problem is agreeing to live together in Basque society."

The PNV's stance is that the Basque country has been voting democratically since 1979, and a huge majority is in favour of the existing statutory form of autonomy, rather than full independence. But with unconfirmed reports that the PNV is already talking to Eta, the PNV peace plan could run into major opposition next year.

The centre right Popular Party (PP) is predicted to win a general election expected in March. Last January Gregorio Ordóñez, the PP deputy mayor of San Sebastian, was shot dead by Eta.

In April José María Aznar, the Popular Party's candidate for Prime Minister, survived a bomb attack in Madrid. He is vehemently opposed to PNV's proposal to release convicted Eta terrorists from prison as part of any peace deal. This could lead to more violence.

EDWARD OWEN

Ancient language that refuses to die

Harry Debelius on the tenacious survival of Euskera



A link with history: Basques have refused to give up their language

The percentage of the population that spoke Basque in the three provinces which make up the autonomous Basque region of Spain rose from 21.5 per cent to 26.3 per cent between 1981 and 1991, according to Basque regional authorities.

In the same period the percentage of those who had a working knowledge of Euskera, but not complete fluency, rose from 14.5 per cent to 19.8 per cent. Significantly, in that period, Basque-speakers in the 5-19 year age group began to overtake the percentage of Spanish-only speakers, although more people still use Spanish than Basque.

José Luis Lizundia, the vice-secretary of the Academy of the Basque Language, said: "A lot more people know how to write in Euskera who could only speak it before. The number of people who are literate in Euskera — who can read and write — has increased considerably."

It is not unlikely that the people who decorated cave walls with religious motifs and hunting scenes at Altamira and numerous other prehistoric caverns along the coasts of the southeast corner of the Bay of Biscay spoke Basque.

Of course, if they did, not even a time machine would be enough to allow them to communicate with modern Basques. The language would have evolved too much over the millennia.

Although there is no hard proof to back up speculation about Basque-speaking cavemen, the language is recognised as being the oldest language in Europe. Its origins are lost in time and it is the only one in Europe that does not belong to the Indo-European family of languages.

Cro-Magnon man lived in that corner of the bay 40,000 years ago, and he is thought to have evolved into Basque man about 7,000 years ago. Judging by inscriptions and place names, the Basque language was in use about 6,000 years ago across a broad expanse of what is now northern Spain.

More surprising is the fact that Euskera is far from being a fossil today. Even Franco's attempts to stamp it out did not accomplish that purpose. If anything, they stimulated the use of the "secret" language in the homes and private meeting places of the Basque country.

Seven *herrialdes* (adjoining territories or provinces on both sides of the French-Spanish border) make up Euskal Herria ("the Basque-speaking country"). They are Alava, Vizcaya, Guipuzcoa and Navarra in Spain, and Lapurdi, Zuberoa and Benafarroa in France). These *herrialdes* have remained culturally united for centuries, thanks primarily to the language they share.

For a minority language to survive in an area of reduced dimension, said Señor Luis, it must have at least the benefits of official use (whether optional or obligatory) and a favourable social atmosphere. Euskera has those benefits now, he said. "I can get seven channels on my television, and one of them at least is in Euskera. I can choose which language I want to listen to."

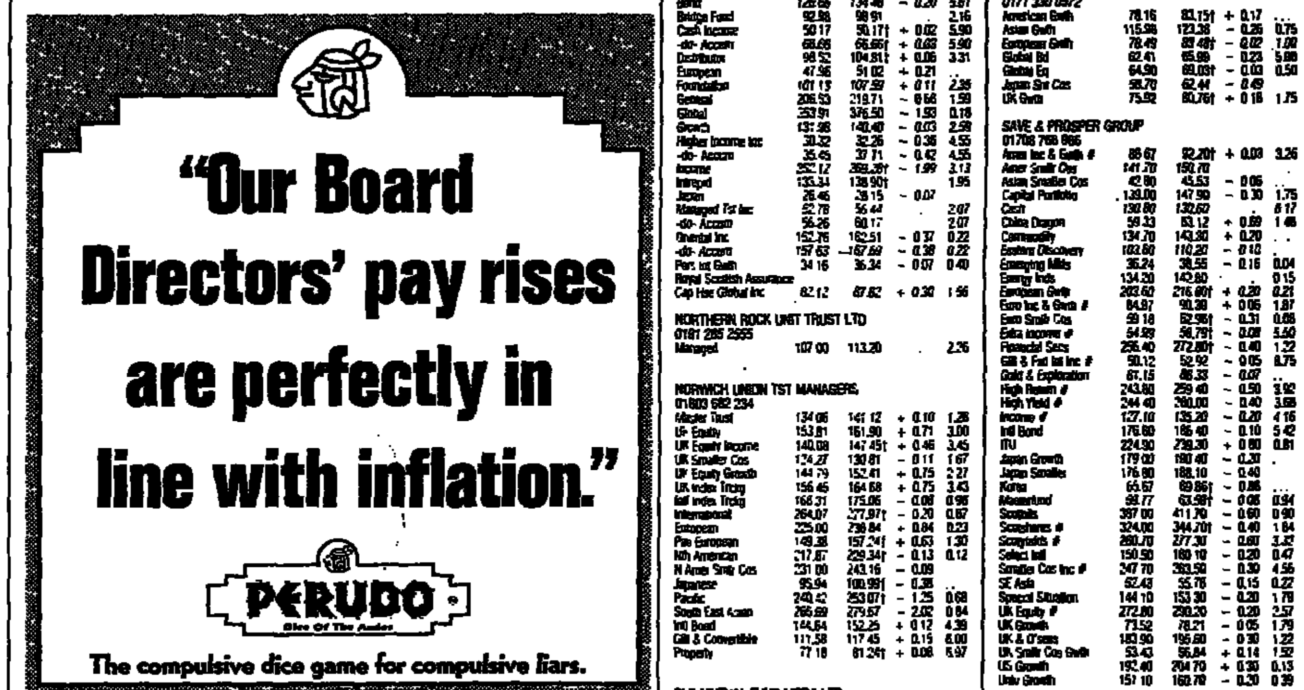
Stressing the importance of what he called "officialisation" for the survival of a language, he cited the Philippines, where Spanish was spoken until 1898, when the islands came under American control and English became the official language. "All that's left of Castilian now is the family names," he said.

He added: "The administration is doing much more to promote our language than in the past.

"You could say Euskera was in the intensive care unit but now it has been moved to a regular hospital ward."

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

Fund	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 01895 259 783				
Gretand Amer	200.40	212.10†	-0.80	0.11
Gretand Equity	268.90	286.10	+0.60	2.07
Gretand Euro	238.20	252.00	-0.20	1.45
Gretand Expl Bal	125.80	130.30	...	0.81
Gretand Gilt	77.14	78.57	-0.03	5.10
Gretand Japan	175.00	185.20†	-0.40	
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS 01203 553 231				
General Acc	615.60	654.90	+3.60	2.60
General Inc	529.00	562.80	+3.30	2.60
UK Growth Acc	415.30	441.90	+2.80	2.82
UK Growth Inc	276.70	294.40	+1.90	2.82
Higher Inc Acc	760.60	809.30	+2.80	4.11
Higher Inc Inc	423.10	450.20	+1.40	4.11
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	208.60	218.10		5.52
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	94.98	100.30	+0.10	5.52
Nth America	339.00	360.70	-1.10	
Europe	317.30	337.60		0.86
Brit Excell	82.85	88.14†	+0.60	2.95
Brit Fndmtls Acc	111.20	118.40	+0.40	4.73
Brit Fndmtls Inc	77.84	82.81	+0.22	4.73
Global Opps	95.41	101.50†	-0.10	0.23
Balanced Acc	60.36	64.22	+0.19	2.83
Balanced Inc	57.76	61.45	+0.18	2.83
Japan Acc	47.58	50.62	-0.11	
Pac Basin Acc	382.30	406.80	-1.10	1.03
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS 0345 717 373				
Gilt & Fixed Int	132.10	140.20†	-0.10	7.13
High Inc Equity	174.10	185.20	-0.30	4.23
Worldwide Bond	292.50	310.10†	-1.10	4.51
American Growth	337.60	360.70	-2.20	0.36
Asian Pacific	314.50	336.40	-0.90	
Assets & Earnings	285.30	303.50†	+0.70	2.85
Euro Capital Acc	160.30	171.40	-0.30	0.80
Extra Inc	44.65	47.50	+0.32	6.46
General	260.30	276.90	+0.40	3.01
Global Opps	58.81	62.56	-0.11	0.48
Japan	124.80	133.50	-0.60	
Managed Inc	47.35	50.37	+0.01	4.62
Mastertrust	152.90	163.90	-0.50	1.44
US Emerging Cos	177.20	188.50	-0.70	
Ethical	73.98	78.70	-0.03	2.49
International	127.20	135.30	-0.20	0.60
Dividend & Growth	65.67	69.86	-0.05	4.02
Global Gwth & Sec	70.53	75.36	-0.03	2.68
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0131 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	1965.00	2040.00		
ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0800 833 580				
Amer Inc & Growth	55.89	58.04	+0.08	0.53
Cash	50.07	50.07†	+0.01	5.84
Emerging Mkts	65.03	68.92	-0.11	0.05
European	129.20	134.30	+0.20	
Exempt	1015.30	1086.60	-0.90	1.71
Extra Income #	48.03	51.46†	+0.01	6.61
Far East Emg Ecn	119.20	125.20	-0.40	0.50
Fixed Interest #	23.56	24.51†	+0.01	9.58
Fund Inv Tst	165.40	173.70	+0.10	8.96
Japan	189.00	196.60		
Latin American	48.18	50.57	+0.07	0.97
Pacific	80.67	84.71	+0.18	0.31
Property Share	62.22	65.31	-0.02	2.63
UK Emerging Cos	69.30	73.65	+0.02	1.68
UK Growth	48.87	51.81	+0.16	2.27
Abe World Port #	78.06	79.56†	+0.04	2.08
Ethical	71.89	74.76†	+0.02	2.36
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	50.79	50.79†	+0.03	7.39
For AEGON see Mathason				
AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0171 256 5868				
Recoll Property	97.32	104.29		5.10
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD 01452 305 958				
Amity Income	82.39	87.42	+0.07	2.35
Income Builder Inc	74.79	79.56†	+0.07	2.73
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC IFA dlg: 01793 610 366 Client dlg: 01793 514 514				
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	256.40	274.00	+0.70	2.85
Capital	456.00	486.30	+1.00	1.70
Balanced	752.30	804.20†	+1.30	2.47
Accumulator	1432.00	1530.00	-3.00	2.65
Income Trusts				
American Income	57.77	61.75	+0.10	2.88
High Income	420.80	449.90	+0.40	3.43
Equity Income	237.20	253.50	+0.20	3.29
High Yield	255.80	273.40†	-0.40	3.18
Govt Securities	34.82	36.74	-0.06	5.77
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	189.90	202.80	-0.40	0.35
European Growth	43.08	45.92	-0.05	0.01
International	178.80	191.00	-0.10	0.17
Japan	205.40	218.80	-1.10	0.01
Pacific	400.40	428.00	-2.90	0.01
Secs of America	540.10	575.10†	+0.10	0.40
Worldw Asset Val	52.99	56.64	-0.16	0.21
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	569.10	608.30†	-0.80	2.10
Conv & Gilt	44.48	47.54	-0.11	4.88
Smaller Cos	189.20	202.20†	-0.10	1.10
2nd Smaller Cos	179.20	191.50	+0.10	1.27
Recovery	150.30	160.60	+0.60	1.63
Met Min & Cdty	170.60	182.30†	-0.80	0.65
Overs Earnings	378.70	404.80†	-0.60	1.67
Technology	219.20	234.30†	+0.70	0.01
UK Special Sits	518.50	554.20†	+1.40	1.56
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 01293 526 911				
Constd Out Pens	110.40	115.10		3.04
Foundn Persl Pens	66.09	68.66		1.44
BGI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0171 600 0033				
Capital	77.03	81.95	+0.26	1.77
International	68.17	72.52		
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD 0131 222 4242				
America	300.30	322.60	-0.50	
Bond	121.30	127.60	-0.10	6.57
Brit Smlr Cos	111.10	118.20	+0.10	1.70
Conv & Gen #	68.56	72.94	+0.11	5.38
Europe	238.20	253.20†	-0.50	0.62
Euro Smlr Cos	107.70	114.90†	+0.70	1.62
Income Gwth	369.00	392.60†	+0.20	3.89
Japan	331.60	353.20	-0.60	
Latin American	68.44	72.81	-0.03	
Pacific	105.80	112.60†	-0.90	1.25
UK Smlr Cos	58.89	62.65	-0.07	1.29
Japan Fd	688.30	710.30	-1.30	
Mngd Fd	190.50	202.40	+0.40	2.94
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD 0171 485 8673				
Brit & Oseas	337.70	355.50		0.81
Capital Gwth	118.00	124.20		2.64
Wwde Opps	205.80	216.60		0.93
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD 0181 534 5544				
Balanced Trusts				
Bicl Inv Fd Inc	383.50	399.50†	+1.20	2.59
European Bd Inc	95.20	99.58	-0.15	6.83
Exempt	77.10	82.24†	+0.02	4.08
Financial	91.88	98.27†	+0.13	2.47
500	468.30	506.20	-0.70	2.64
General	294.60	315.40	+0.50	3.58
Property	237.10	254.40†		6.49
Trustee	208.90	222.70	+0.80	2.25
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.90	100.90	+0.10	6.02
Extra Income #	126.80	135.40	-0.10	4.96
Gilt & Fxd Int	58.92	61.00†	-0.06	6.15
Income	562.30	601.40	+0.70	3.81
Income Builder #	66.38	70.80	-0.11	5.53
Intl Income	67.89	72.22	-0.34	3.21
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	131.40	140.20	+0.50	2.24
Leisure	148.10	158.40	+0.10	1.11
Recovery	438.80	469.30	-0.10	2.83
Smllr Cos Inc	48.49	52.00	-0.01	2.14
Special Sits	335.00	358.30	+0.20	1.53
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	161.10	171.30†	-0.70	0.30
Aust Acc	268.00	286.60	-0.30	1.87
Aust Inc	161.60	172.80†	-0.20	1.87
Euro Gwth Inc	166.80	176.90	-0.80	0.74
-do- Accum	180.10	191.10	-0.90	0.74
Japan & Gen Inc	165.90	175.60	-1.10	
-do- Accum	167.80	177.60	-1.10	
Japan Spec Sits	76.12	80.63	-0.53	
Unly Tech Inc	91.60	97.54	-0.51	
Worldwide	186.00	197.40	-0.70	0.63
BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD 0171 214 1004				
American Growth	117.10	123.90	-0.40	
Amer Smlr Cos	151.40	161.90	-0.40	
Convertibles	55.01	59.01	-0.06	5.70
Eastern	284.30	307.40	-3.10	0.30
Equity Income	87.53	93.88	-0.50	3.80
European Growth	326.20	348.60	+1.30	0.80
Europe	271.00	287.80†	+0.20	0.20
German Growth	79.99	84.86	+0.24	0.50
Global Bond	68.80	71.50	-0.27	6.50
Global Growth	141.30	150.40†	-0.10	
Japan Growth	206.80	220.10		
Japan Sunrise	158.10	168.10	+2.30	
Korea Trust	79.82	87.07	+0.30	
Portfolio	138.10	147.80	+0.40	2.30
-do- Accum	257.30	275.30	+0.70	2.30
UK Growth	87.61	93.81	+0.68	2.70
UK Smaller Cos	82.86	90.41	+0.20	2.50
Select Managers	81.74	87.68	+0.04	1.00
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD 0171 250 3300				
Intl Gwth Port Inc	86.44	91.96		
Special Oppor Inc	58.65	62.39		
BRITANNIA LIFE UNIT MGRS LTD 0141 223 6020				
Balanced Growth	123.87	131.08	+0.15	1.52
-do- Accum	141.74	149.99	+0.17	1.52
Smaller Cos	125.50	132.81†	+0.15	0.81
Higher Yield #	51.34	54.33	+0.07	4.35
American Gth Inc	86.87	91.92	-0.30	
European Growth	147.60	156.19	+0.57	0.21
-do- Accum	150.51	159.27	+0.58	0.21
Global Bond Inc #	25.35	26.66†	-0.08	7.07
Mngd Pfolio Inc	47.19	49.91	-0.06	1.40
-do- Accum	48.40	51.19	-0.06	1.40
Intl Spec Opps	136.83	144.80	-0.60	
Pacific Gth	135.62	143.51	-0.48	0.30
UK General #	84.94	89.88	+0.11	2.98
-do- Accum #	88.47	93.62	+0.11	2.98
Japan	61.15	64.70	-0.44	
Gilt & Fixed Int #	101.86	105.55†	-0.11	6.46
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0171 480 7216				
Short Dated Gilt	67.80	68.69	-0.04	6.18
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD 0161 837 5060				
Environ	168.60	179.30†	+0.10	1.79
UK Growth	189.50	201.60	+0.40	2.09
UK Income	141.30	150.30	+0.20	4.30
CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD 01707 622 100				
Can Gen Dist	216.30	229.30	+0.50	1.73
-do- Income Dist	115.90	122.90†	+0.40	4.07
-do- Accum	364.70	386.80	+1.10	4.07
Gilt & Fxd Int	41.81	44.36	-0.38	6.13
Growth Units	229.40	245.40	+0.80	2.04
Bond	178.70	188.10	-0.10	6.18
Intl Growth	235.60	250.80	-0.60	0.30
North American	236.50	251.80	-0.10	0.26
Far East	291.10	311.30	-0.10	1.08
UK Smaller Cos	195.80	208.40	+0.90	1.45
European	89.49	95.08	+0.04	0.06
Japanese Growth	48.87	51.87	-0.23	
High Income	203.50	217.70	+0.30	4.02
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD 0161 831 7433 Enq 0161 831 7433 Dlg 0161 831 7455				
American & Gen	190.80	202.80	-0.90	
Eurocrest Inc	86.50	91.54	+0.09	1.02
Smaller Cos (4-1)	92.11	97.99	+0.20	1.44
Growth	482.50	513.30	+1.10	1.74
Income & Growth #	435.00	462.80	-0.70	3.91
-do- Accum #	633.50	674.00	-1.10	3.91
Japan & Gen	71.63	76.05	-0.16	
Master Portfolio	£111.16	£114.97†	+36.00	2.15
-do- Accum	£131.80	£139.30	+43.00	2.15
Special Sits	112.50	119.70	+0.20	1.85
High Yield	£13.96	£14.40†	+6.00	4.34
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 0171 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	94.21	100.61	+0.09	2.54
American Portfolio	113.06	119.93†	-0.43	0.93
European Portfolio	110.90	118.18	-0.66	0.49
High Income	52.39	52.51†	-0.11	8.00
Japanese Portfolio	69.58	74.01	-0.27	
Pacific Portfolio	144.99	155.91†	-0.82	1.43
UK Inc & Growth	86.57	92.75	+0.10	3.05
Utility & Bond	57.16	57.89	-0.17	6.61
CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG 0171 588 1815				
Inv Fund	721.54	732.44	...	4.40
Fxd In Sec	156.56	157.18		9.10
COIF CHARITY FUNDS 0171 588 1815				
Investment Inc	722.94	733.86		4.35
Investment Acc	£31.84	£32.32		
Fixed Int Inc	130.36	130.88		8.79
Fixed Int Acc	216.95	217.81		
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD 0171 407 5966				
Bachman Intl	93.61	98.76		3.01
Beck Bio-Tech	42.13	45.52†		
Acorn Ethical Tst	168.35	176.78†		0.72
City Fin Assets	77.26	81.13	-0.30	2.06
City Fin America	104.81	110.06		
City Fin Intl	87.68	92.07†		0.89
City Fin Japan	151.54	159.13		
Friars Hse Cap	296.94	310.47	+0.57	3.35
Friars Hse Inc	191.78	208.34†	-1.28	4.37
Buckley Wrld Gth	138.58	145.89		
Fairmnt Cap Gth	145.55	153.21†		
Fairmount Intl	153.80	161.89†		
J Sid Inc/Gth Inc	57.04	59.90†		3.44
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	55.14	58.50	+0.08	
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD 0800 373 393				
American Gwth	76.04	81.33	-0.12	
Dragon Growth	68.15	72.88	-0.28	0.94
Equity High Inc	86.34	92.54†	+0.12	4.14
-do- Accum	120.69	129.36	+0.18	4.14
Extra Income Inc	26.96	28.40	-0.03	7.13
Extra Income Acc	28.05	29.56	-0.03	7.13
European Gwth	57.25	60.90	+0.14	1.12
Evergreen	29.17	31.19	-0.01	
General Equity	94.52	100.29	+0.61	2.92
Japan Growth	52.96	56.84	-0.13	
Pedigree Gwth	56.60	60.68	+0.24	2.82
Pnl Sm Cos Inc	33.25	35.37†	+0.03	1.56
-do- Accum	35.01	37.24	+0.03	1.56
Retirement Inc #	26.67	28.37	+0.01	5.92
Special Sits	42.44	45.15	+0.09	2.14
UK & Overseas	54.80	58.30	-0.27	0.77
COLONIAL UT MGRS LTD 01634 898 000				
Capital	75.08	78.20	+0.43	1.94
Balanced	65.05	67.60	+0.21	4.15
COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MGMT (NTL) LTD 0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	169.65	180.48	+0.82	4.85
Fixed & Convertible	40.97	43.59	-0.07	6.67
Monthly Inc Plus	50.14	53.34	+0.01	8.40
Preference Share	47.14	50.15	-0.01	7.77
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	129.50	137.77	+0.47	5.90
Managed Fund	73.02	77.68	+0.09	3.03
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	43.16	45.91	-0.09	1.77
-do- Accum	50.24	53.45	-0.09	1.77
UK & General	87.98	93.60	+0.47	2.73
-do- Accum	112.91	120.12	+0.61	2.73
UK Growth	165.08	175.60	+0.64	2.30
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	202.02	214.91	+2.50	0.11
Far Eastern Gth	132.79	141.27	-0.61	
Global Bond	84.71	90.05	-0.20	5.87
Japan Growth	120.04	127.70	-0.51	
North Amer Gth	213.34	226.96	-0.76	
Oriental Growth	79.70	84.79	-0.44	0.06
Worldwide Growth	72.20	76.81	-0.07	0.10
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	92.30	92.30	+0.03	6.13
Homemaker Fund	87.42	93.00	+0.46	1.62
Quilter Fund	143.89	153.07	+1.02	1.99
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD 0171 407 5966				
Consistent UT	33.33	35.67		3.34
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD 0800 526 358				
Growth	169.60	180.40†	-0.50	1.79
Income	70.70	75.21	-0.51	5.82
European	65.95	70.16	+0.10	0.64
Recovery	165.40	176.00	+0.10	2.11
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD 0171 283 9494				
Equity Dist	906.50	921.80†		3.47
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD 01277 690 370				
Fellowship Tst	93.20	99.14	-0.11	1.51
Income #	264.40	281.20	+1.10	4.26
-do- Accum #	677.90	721.10	+2.70	4.26
Smaller Cos	199.10	211.80	+0.30	0.98
-do- Accum	245.00	260.60	+0.20	0.98
Inv Portfolio	90.28	96.02	+0.20	1.58
High Inc Port #	77.25	82.18	+0.31	4.34
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD 0171 410 0177				
Euro Small Cos	1532.70	1590.40†		
Japan Small Cos	1206.70	1229.80†		
UK Small Cos	1918.00	1997.30		
US Small Cos	1961.00	1999.10†		
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS 0171 377 8819				
Disc Inc	218.50	230.00		2.95
DUNEDIN UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0131 315 2500				
European Gwth	299.60	316.60	+0.70	0.86
New Asia	218.60	232.70	-2.70	0.25
Japan Growth	112.10	119.30	+0.10	
Jap Smlr Co	451.80	479.00	+2.40	
Nth Amer	359.50	380.20	+2.50	0.77
UK Inc & Grth	230.90	246.70	+1.10	2.87
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD 01242 577 555				
UK Balanced Inc	153.80	163.60†	+0.10	1.64
UK High Inc Inc	163.10	173.40†	+0.20	4.15
-do- Accum	216.10	229.80†	+0.30	4.15
UK Pref & F I Inc	59.70	63.33†	-0.02	4.95
Environmtl Opps	91.60	97.44	-0.16	0.96
UK Smlr Cos #	60.55	64.41	-0.10	0.01
Extra Income Inc	49.24	52.37	+0.02	7.80
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0345 000 525				
American	155.00	164.50†	-0.70	1.06
Convertibles #	21.11	22.43†	-0.03	6.24
Equity Income #	133.80	142.20†	+0.60	3.73
EuroFund	52.65	55.76	-0.01	0.36
Financial	49.87	52.99	-0.07	1.42
Growth & Inc #	264.40	280.90	+1.10	2.74
High Dist #	167.40	177.90†	+0.60	4.22
International	414.30	440.20	-0.60	0.11
Int Cap Inc	98.33	105.00	-1.00	2.62
Latin American	25.88	27.50	-0.01	
Pacific	81.82	86.72	-0.03	
Prof High Inc	21.94	23.31	-0.10	7.08
Tokyo	233.30	247.70	+0.10	
UK Smaller Cos	251.30	267.00	+0.30	1.03
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD 0171 242 0242				
BRI Director Dlgs	101.51	108.57	+2.24	1.47
Growth Acc	244.54	261.11	+6.88	0.68
Income	585.36	621.33	+1.82	5.21
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD 0171 373 7261				
Endurance Fd	217.90	231.80		1.19
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 01296 431 480				
European	86.02	90.55	-0.25	1.99
Ethical Tst	46.70	49.16	+0.15	1.28
Far Eastern	304.14	320.15	-1.53	1.65
High Income	133.78	140.82†	-0.09	4.84
Intl Growth	124.83	131.40	-0.86	0.45
North American	137.33	144.56	-0.45	1.46
Pelican	128.67	135.44	+0.19	3.29
Smaller Cos	66.37	69.86†	+0.05	3.03
Special Sits	88.23	92.87	-0.05	3.20
Tst of Inv Tsts	196.61	206.96	+0.28	1.26
EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD 0171 407 5966				
Smaller Cos Inc	201.13	213.97	-0.79	1.32
Smaller Cos Acc	355.96	378.68	-1.37	1.32
Recovery	48.74	52.91†	-0.19	1.52
Recovery Acc	50.92	54.17†	-0.18	1.52
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD 01392 412 144				
Capital Growth	89.65	95.07	-0.01	
Fd of Inv Tsts	48.51	51.74	+0.07	0.56
High Income #	41.15	44.10	-0.02	10.43
Warrant	52.48	57.04	+0.09	
Zero Preference	42.16	44.77	+0.02	
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD 01273 220 707				
Family Asset Tst	81.40	86.59	+0.170	3.28
Family Income Tst	45.00	45.00	-0.08	6.58
Family Trust	90.40	96.17	-0.48	2.31
United Charities	264.80	281.60	-0.40	5.11
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD Callfree: Private Clients 0800 414 161				
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00		6.30
Bond Funds				
Gilt & Fxd Int	28.18	28.26†	-0.03	7.07
Intl Bond	30.53	31.67	-0.03	5.30
Income Funds				
High Income	26.50	28.81†	+0.02	5.38
Income Plus	120.30	128.00†	+0.40	4.14
Amer Eq Inc	57.84	61.28	-0.41	1.44
European Income	45.51	48.39	+0.41	2.37
Far East Inc	67.61	71.81†	+0.06	2.29
Global Convertible	24.67	26.21	-0.08	2.67
UK Div Gth	27.96	29.73	+0.17	2.33
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	63.35	67.58	-0.22	
American	306.40	324.80†	+0.30	
Amer Spec Sits	167.00	178.30	-0.50	
Japan Smaller Cos	36.79	39.25	+0.09	
European	197.20	209.70	+0.60	0.65
European Opps	68.82	74.24	-0.40	0.15
Global Prty	27.80	29.56	-0.02	0.78
UK Growth	106.40	113.30	+1.40	1.26
Growth & Inc	159.90	170.10	+0.90	2.77
Intl PEP	43.09	45.73	-0.08	1.06
Japan Spec Sits	91.21	97.11	+0.78	
Japan	190.50	202.60	-0.10	
Managed Intl	325.20	345.80	+0.20	0.43
Moneybuilder	60.19	64.00	+0.08	
Recovery	50.58	53.78	+0.03	1.44
South E Asia	168.00	179.30	-1.10	1.06
Special Sits	597.80	635.70	+0.70	0.72
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	112.15	112.15	+0.04	6.20
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD 0171 814 2700				
Balanced #	142.50	145.40		2.52
Inc Pfolio #	88.99	90.60†	+0.30	3.60
Cap Pfolio	154.60	157.10	+0.40	1.44
General Opps	133.50	135.20†		3.43
Growth Inc	33.95	34.73†	+0.10	1.34
Private Portfolio	453.60	463.30		1.64
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT Enq 0171 454 1434 Dlg 01277 261 010				
European	123.80	131.60	+0.20	0.60
Emrg Asian	155.00	165.60	-0.60	
High Income	21.28	22.62†	+0.10	8.95
UK Growth	117.50	125.90	+0.40	2.45
UK Income	105.80	113.00†	+0.40	4.33
US Smaller Cos	378.20	403.90	-1.80	0.38
FOSTER & BRAITHWAITE FUND MANAGEMENT LTD 0171 407 5966				
-do- Inv Tst Inc	77.77	81.78	+0.11	4.16
Investment Trust	100.18	105.34	-0.33	
UK Smaller Cos	92.70	97.48	+0.75	0.97
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD Enq 0171 330 6500 Dealing 0345 775511				
American Growth	73.49	78.24	-0.21	
-do- Accum	73.40	78.24	-0.21	
Amer Smlr Cos	624.60	668.00	-1.70	...
-do- Accum	638.10	682.50	-1.80	
Capital Tst	336.30	357.70		1.37
-do- Accum	488.40	519.40	...	1.37
Cont Smlr Cos	57.22	61.00	+0.10	0.83
-do- Accum	60.38	64.37	+0.11	0.83
Convertible	133.30	141.80		5.36
-do- Accum	275.00	292.50		5.36
Emerging Markets	63.97	68.91†	-0.23	
-do- Accum	64.21	68.59	-0.30	
European	127.70	135.30	+0.30	0.35
-do- Accum	134.30	142.40	+0.20	0.35
Extra Income	359.00	381.80	+0.80	3.89
-do- Accum	554.30	586.30	+1.20	3.89
Financial	148.10	158.70†	-0.10	0.05
-do- Accum	156.80	168.00†	-0.20	0.05
Gilt Trust	65.13	67.16	+0.10	6.12
-do- Accum	95.91	98.90	+0.15	6.12
Health Fund Inc	211.80	226.20†	-0.80	
-do- Accum	211.88	226.20†	-0.80	
Income & Growth	205.90	219.00†	+0.80	3.51
-do- Accum	321.90	342.40†	+1.40	3.51
Intl Growth	407.90	435.40†	+0.30	
-do- Accum	452.90	483.90†	+0.30	
Japan & Gen	185.80	197.90	-0.80	
-do- Accum	187.40	199.90	-0.80	
Monthly Inc #	177.20	188.40†	+0.20	3.71
Managed Port Inc	113.40	119.40	+0.10	2.01
-do- Accum	121.80	128.20		2.01
Quarterly Income #	52.97	56.85†	+0.19	3.89
-do- Accum #	58.72	63.04†	+0.21	3.89
Recovery	348.70	372.80	-0.60	0.12
-do- Accum	411.60	440.10	-0.60	0.12
UK Growth	59.27	63.39	+0.28	2.52
-do- Accum	62.82	67.18	+0.29	2.52
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS Dealing 01705 881330 Enq 01705 881340				
FP American	55.95	59.52†	-0.24	0.43
FP Am Smllr Cos	171.20	183.10	+0.70	
FP Asian Growth	264.20	282.50†	-1.10	
FP Australian	370.90	397.90		0
FP Equity Dist	412.10	439.30†	+0.90	2.53
-do- Accum	893.60	950.60†	+2.00	2.53
FP Euro Gth	244.20	259.70	-0.30	0.17
-do- Accum	265.40	282.30	-0.30	0.17
FP Intl Bond	61.88	65.48	-0.14	4.63
FP Intl Gth Dist	35.69	38.08†	-0.10	0.47
-do- Accum	52.12	55.62†	-0.14	0.47
FP Pac Basin Acc	210.90	225.40†	-1.10	
FP Income	54.59	58.22†	-0.10	4.93
-do- Accum	184.50	198.80	-0.30	4.93
FP Jap Smllr Cos	310.90	331.60	+0.40	
FP Monthly Dist	72.87	77.78†	-0.09	5.07
FP Stlg Deposit	100.90	100.90		6.25
FP Tokyo	83.30	88.65	-0.56	
FP UK Focus	38.51	41.40	+0.01	2.66
FP UK Growth	184.30	196.50	+0.10	2.70
-do- Accum	361.80	385.90	+0.20	2.70
Stewardship Dist	369.10	392.60†	+0.30	1.94
-do- Accum	459.40	488.70†	+0.30	1.94
Stwdshp Inc Dist	74.52	79.37	+0.01	4.72
-do- Accum	99.17	105.50	...	4.72
N Am Stshp Dist	117.50	125.00	-0.90	0.93
-do- Accum	125.50	133.50	-1.00	0.93
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Gwth Acc	117.40	124.80†	-0.50	1.19
Opps Cap Gth Acc	121.40	129.10†	-0.40	0.07
Cap Gth Inc Inc	112.60	119.70	-0.50	2.41
Cap Gth Inc Acc	116.40	123.80	-0.50	2.41
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ic	116.00	123.40	-0.60	3.31
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ac	120.60	128.30	-0.50	3.31
GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0345 581 106/7				
GARDA	263.30	278.40†	+0.60	2.21
Cash	49.51	50.25†	+0.02	5.30
Growth Portfolio	83.67	88.69	-0.34	0.92
Income Portfolio	66.02	69.81†	-0.41	4.41
GEM DOLPHIN INV MGRS LTD 0171 236 6441				
Special Sits	210.80	225.50	+2.10	1.50
Dividend	93.04	99.51	-0.12	4.79
Int Gth & Inc	235.80	252.20	+0.40	3.13
UK & Gen	47.95	51.28	+0.19	2.55
Fund of Funds	70.11	74.98	+0.15	
GT UNIT MANAGERS LTD Inv 0800 212274 Dealing 0171 626 9431				
Amer Spec Sits	229.30	245.30	+0.50	
European	809.50	848.70	-0.50	0.29
Euro Eq & Bd Inc	51.28	54.62	-0.24	4.97
-do- Accum	55.82	59.46	-0.25	4.97
Far East & Gen	266.40	285.00†	-1.40	
Germany	121.30	128.60	+0.20	
High Yield #	50.09	52.98†	+0.04	8.02
-do- Accum #	52.61	55.65	+0.05	8.02
Income Inc	169.60	181.40		4.33
-do- Accum	187.10	200.10		4.33
International	357.30	382.10	-1.30	
Intl Income	91.25	96.68†	-0.10	2.98
Japan & General	443.80	472.40	-0.60	
Korean Securities	68.38	73.14	-1.24	
Orient Acc	141.50	151.40	-0.90	0.23
Smlr Cos Div Inc	45.06	48.20	-0.15	4.19
-do- Accum	49.76	53.22	-0.17	4.19
UK Capital Inc	179.10	191.60	+0.10	1.49
UK Capital Acc	315.60	337.60	+0.20	1.49
UK Spec Sits	93.19	98.60	-0.22	1.31
US & General	177.70	188.60	-0.50	
Wwide Spec Sits	155.10	165.80	-0.30	
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS 0171 782 2000 Dlgs only: 01277 264 421				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	55.86	59.69	+0.36	1.74
Cash Trust	141.41	141.41†	+0.05	6.26
Practical Inv Inc #	119.46	127.78	+0.13	3.66
-do- Accum #	280.35	299.84	+0.33	2.66
UK Index	156.07	166.90	+0.90	3.24
UK Smaller Cos	144.72	154.78	+0.29	0.67
Income Funds				
Extra Yield	24.65	25.54		7.83
High Income	33.86	36.22†	+0.01	5.25
UK Equity Income	148.15	158.45	+0.01	2.87
Global Bond	31.05	32.16	-0.03	5.03
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	43.38	46.40	-0.32	
Global Managed	144.25	153.35	-0.26	1.46
Gold & Intl Res	110.86	118.57	+0.05	
Global Utilities	138.02	148.53†	-1.58	1.48
Overseas Funds				
American	180.04	191.43	-0.10	0.87
European	119.30	126.40	+0.15	0.87
Euro Sel Opps	176.15	186.92	-0.11	
Amer Emerging	139.63	149.34†	+0.54	
Hong Kong	146.88	157.07	-0.87	2.09
Japan	251.92	267.58	-1.01	
Pacific Growth	217.83	232.97	-0.99	
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds				
Managed Equity	231.21	231.21	-3.52	2.12
Long Term Bal	257.89	257.89	+0.17	3.10
Med Term Bal	216.95	216.85	+0.19	3.17
UK Equity	269.65	269.65†	+0.39	2.49
UK Emerging Cos	154.51	154.51†	-0.16	2.00
American	297.40	297.40	-0.93	1.09
Japan	132.34	132.34	-0.49	
European	307.88	307.88	+0.74	1.07
Index Linked Gilt	181.00	181.00†	+0.03	2.86
Fixed Interest	172.35	172.35†	+0.10	6.39
Amer Emergng	324.81	324.81	+0.57	
Pacific	242.50	242.50†	-0.49	0.86
Emerging Mkts	117.63	117.63	-0.42	0.68
Index Strat Japan	156.98	156.98	-0.20	0.18
-do- Pacific Rim	189.95	189.95	-0.63	1.33
-do- Cont Europe	171.27	171.27	+0.20	2.01
Index Strat USA	173.37	173.37	-0.28	1.87
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	110.68	117.74	+0.11	
Med Term Bal	103.17	109.76	+0.10	
Long Term Bal	115.88	123.28	+0.08	
UK Equity	124.78	132.74	+0.19	
UK Emerging Cos	72.43	77.05	-0.08	
American	138.00	146.81	-0.46	
Japan	63.33	67.37	-0.25	
European	127.95	136.12	+0.33	
Fixed Interest	87.61	93.20	+0.05	
Index Linked Gilt	80.41	85.54	+0.02	
Deposit	83.98	89.34	+0.03	
Broker Unit Trusts				
BWH Intl	151.56	159.54	-0.25	0.53
Brcliff Gth Port Inc	68.82	72.63	-0.37	0.60
-do- Inc Port Inc	59.99	63.31†	-0.36	3.50
-do- Wwide Port	58.00	61.21	-0.10	0.10
Shaw Utilities	63.91	67.45†	-2.10	3.15
GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT GAM Sterling Management 0171 493 9990				
Stlg & Intl Inc	598.54	636.75		2.28
-do- Accum	665.70	708.19		2.26
European Inc	158.87	168.99		1.39
Amalgam Inc	153.82	162.96		
N America Inc	359.56	382.51		0.80
Far East Inc	383.37	407.85		
-do- Accum	397.06	422.41		
UK Divid Inc	187.60	199.57		3.37
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MGMT LTD 0171 378 7979 Dealing: 0171 407 7888				
UK Equity Inc	97.24	103.89	+0.28	4.35
UK Small Cos	59.33	63.44	+0.15	0.71
Brasch Growth	65.63	70.40	+0.29	2.44
American Gwth	244.81	261.82	+1.45	
Japan Gwth	67.52	72.20	+0.13	
Greater China	180.72	193.27	+0.99	0.56
Pacific Strategy	153.75	164.43	-0.38	0.55
European Gwth	96.90	103.34†	-0.23	0.69
Intl Growth	161.04	172.23	-0.08	
US Index (£)	17.0649	17.9806	-0.1270	4.60
FT-SE Mid 250 Ind	81.18	86.81	-1.09	2.13
Monthly Income	40.45	43.17†	-0.07	8.00
MIS Unit Trust Dealing: 071 665 0033				
Gvt UK Index (£)	13.3004	14.0413	+0.1442	5.50
GRANVILLE UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0171 488 1212				
Small Coc	96.73	102.90		1.49
GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD 0171 538 9668				
European	527.10	563.10†	-0.90	0.50
Gilt & Fixed	133.40	141.50	+0.10	5.59
Growth Equity	381.00	407.00†	+0.30	1.41
Income Trust	144.70	154.50	-0.10	3.29
International	201.90	215.20	-0.10	0.15
Japan Trust	133.20	142.40	-0.70	
Nth American	330.60	353.20	-0.80	
Pacific	554.10	591.90	-2.10	0.05
Guardhill	578.10	617.60	+0.50	1.49
GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD 0171 522 2129				
EMU Trust	107.64	111.74†	-0.22	6.31
Global High Inc	103.16	107.06	-0.50	5.91
Corporate Bond	105.63	110.90	-0.21	6.14
Eqty & Bond Inc	109.24	115.08	-0.49	5.09
European Growth	114.31	121.54	+0.37	
Intl PEP Trust	66.54	70.74	-0.15	
Equity Inc	127.97	136.06†	-1.20	4.12
-do- Accum	182.09	193.61	-1.84	4.12
Recovery	341.20	362.70†	+1.30	2.17
-do- Accum	399.90	425.10	+1.90	2.17
St Vinc High Inc	120.35	129.97	+0.14	6.75
UK Emerg Cos	266.40	283.20†	+0.70	1.94
UK Smlr Cos	305.80	322.20	+0.50	2.58
Glob Priv Tst	99.17	105.37	-0.15	1.34
-do- Accum	100.96	107.34	-0.16	1.34
Inc Share Tst	89.59	95.26†	+0.02	7.01
HALIFAX UT MGMT LTD Dealing: 0171 220 5050				
Growth	29.63	31.45	+0.05	1.87
Growth Acc	30.01	31.82	+0.05	1.87
Income	29.04	30.79†	+0.05	4.41
Income Acc	30.05	31.86	+0.06	4.41
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 390				
Model Pfolio	222.70	234.20	+0.80	2.42
Smaller Cos	34.05	36.22	+0.18	1.19
HENDERSON TOUCHE REMNANT Enquiries: 01277 263 290 Dealing: 01277 234 772				
UK Funds				
Special Sits	343.12	367.13	+1.12	1.21
Best of Brit	67.19	71.42†	+0.40	2.70
UK Smaller Cos	138.34	148.71	+0.20	1.55
High Income Funds				
Income & Growth #	287.17	307.94†	+1.02	3.72
-do- Accum #	801.02	853.04	+2.83	3.72
High Income	326.67	349.27†	+0.66	4.44
Extra Income #	288.63	306.95†	+0.30	5.04
Pref & Bond	46.36	49.98†	+0.04	8.30
International				
International	303.45	322.98	-0.81	
Global Econ	57.69	60.74†	-0.22	5.69
Intl Port Tst	91.47	97.82†	-0.39	0.50
Global Tech	243.26	260.22†	-0.67	
Overseas Funds				
Asian Enterprise	176.50	188.74	-0.64	0.80
European	539.69	571.81†	+1.26	0.48
European Income #	86.57	91.63	-0.12	2.80
Euro Smlr Cos	158.76	168.29	+0.75	0.90
Eur Sp Sits	77.52	82.69	+0.06	1.27
-do- Accum	83.04	88.58	+0.07	1.27
Japan Trust	228.24	243.26	-0.17	...
Japan Special Sits	222.14	236.87	+0.97	
Pacific Smlr Cos	232.82	249.11	+0.35	...
North American	289.74	307.64	-0.75	
American Smaller	145.68	155.74	-0.83	
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS 0181 686 4355				
British	110.78	115.98†	+0.59	1.86
Capital	191.58	202.60	+0.50	1.35
Dollar	445.40	465.39	-3.26	
Enterprise Gth	368.84	386.22	+0.87	1.48
European	253.64	265.60	+0.80	0.51
Far East	311.42	326.10	-1.21	
Financial	959.08	£10.04	+3.22	1.75
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	26.45	27.51	-0.01	6.66
High Yield	106.48	111.49†	+0.34	3.74
Income & Growth	152.83	160.04†	+0.51	3.18
International	282.91	296.24	-0.71	
Japanese General	218.83	229.14	-0.65	
Japan Tech	95.92	100.44	-0.65	...
Nat Resources	80.37	84.16	-0.23	
Portfolio	80.13	83.91	-0.01	1.33
Smaller Cos	141.86	148.55	+0.30	1.02
Special Sits	174.86	182.86	+0.17	0.82
UK Emerging Cos	105.36	110.33	-0.09	0.90
US Smaller Cos	125.94	131.87	-0.16	
HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD Advisers: 0800 181 890 Investors: 0800 289 505				
UK Funds				
Balanced #	109.10	116.40†		5.83
Capital	660.50	704.90	+6.90	2.19
Income #	609.20	650.20	+1.40	5.78
Footsie Fund	60.35	60.65†	+0.40	2.95
Trade Index	113.20	119.80		2.35
UK Index	155.50	164.50	+0.80	3.23
International Funds				
American Growth	572.10	608.40	-0.20	0.46
American Index	259.70	274.60	-0.50	1.23
European Growth	126.00	134.30	+0.40	0.16
Eurotrack 100	181.80	192.20	+0.50	1.01
Global Bond	23.38	24.86	-0.07	5.07
Japan Growth	291.50	310.50	-1.30	
Japan Index	83.76	88.63	-0.12	0.18
Japan Smlr Cos	31.52	33.84	+0.16	
Far Eastern Funds				
Asian	60.71	64.79	-0.34	0.17
Hong Kong Gwth	117.20	125.10	-0.60	1.28
Spore & Mlysn Gth	77.84	83.07	-0.04	
Tiger Index	203.40	215.20	-1.20	0.44
INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD 0171 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
UK Smaller Cos	41.45	43.09	+0.13	0.58
General Funds				
Managed	81.37	84.50†	+0.02	1.38
Rupert Child Fnd	94.36	98.09	+0.41	3.20
UK Growth	65.95	68.56†	+0.77	2.12
High Income Funds				
UK Extra Inc	85.41	88.78	+0.17	6.56
Gilt & Fixed Int	27.59	28.47	-0.01	7.72
UK Inc & Gwth	43.86	45.61†	+0.08	3.40
UK Income	342.00	355.50†	+0.90	4.98
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Growth	59.30	61.50	-0.03	0.36
Amer Smlr Cos	141.00	146.60	-0.60	
-do- Accum	142.50	148.10	-0.70	
Europe Gth	185.20	192.10	+0.20	
-do- Accum	191.80	199.00	+0.30	
Euro Smaller Cos	34.22	35.57	-0.21	
French Growth	82.60	85.88	-0.04	0.32
-do- Accum	88.62	92.12	-0.04	0.32
H Kong & China	84.58	87.92	-0.61	1.42
Intl Growth	63.89	66.41†	+0.03	0.41
-do- Accum	64.78	67.34†	+0.03	0.41
Japan Gth	34.12	35.47	-0.07	
-do- Accum	34.12	35.47	-0.07	
Japan Smaller Cos	40.43	42.03	-0.06	
Glob Emg Mkts	93.59	97.29	-0.96	
-do- Accum	94.26	97.98	-0.97	
SE Asia	331.50	344.60	-1.30	0.03
Overseas Income Funds				
Intl Bond	57.15	58.89†	-0.03	5.84
JOHNSON FRY UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD Enq 01277 227300 Dealing 01277 261010				
Sector Value Inc	97.07	102.60	+0.50	4.87
Sector Value Gwth	97.96	103.40	+0.60	1.93
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD 0171 581 3020				
World Health	195.70	208.10	-1.70	
Income	186.56	198.47	+0.46	3.07
UK Growth	72.91	77.56	+0.10	0.45
International	80.83	85.98	-0.20	0.07
Ecology	91.18	97.00	-0.05	1.11
European	143.64	152.80	-0.34	
Far Eastern	305.00	324.40	-1.80	
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS Dealers: 0171 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Bond Income	100.80	104.20†	-0.30	7.38
Gilt Yield	119.50	126.10†	-0.10	6.74



Fund	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Global Income	221.90	236.10†	-0.60	3.67
High Yield	145.10	154.40	+0.60	5.79
-do- Accum	457.80	487.00	+1.70	5.79
Smlr Cos Div	55.20	58.72†	+0.15	2.92
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smlr Cos	128.40	136.60	+0.30	
Asian Growth	325.20	346.00	-0.20	0.24
-do- Accum	382.20	406.60	-0.20	0.24
North American	98.82	105.10†	-0.57	0.25
European Special	115.30	122.70	-0.30	0.10
European	164.30	174.80†	-0.40	0.46
-do- Accum	216.60	230.40†	-0.60	0.46
Global Eqty Inc	114.50	121.90	+0.20	2.12
Japan	437.20	454.50	-2.70	
Japanese Special	231.50	246.30	-0.10	
Smaller Cos	123.00	130.90†	+0.80	1.17
UK Equity Growth	44.27	47.10	+0.26	1.57
UK Index Inc	309.40	311.00†	+0.90	3.50
Bircham Tst	101.40	109.40	+0.80	2.74
-do- Accum	101.40	109.40	+0.80	2.74
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT 0171 407 5966				
Bridge Income	277.33	295.03†	+0.52	5.25
Inc & Growth Inc	59.67	63.48	+0.16	4.30
Smaller Cos	69.98	74.45	-0.04	1.36
LAURENTIAN UNIT TST MGMT LTD Enq 01452 371 500 Dlg: 01452 371 623				
Growth Trust	271.40	288.70†	+0.60	1.86
High Income	112.20	119.30	-0.20	4.36
International	108.50	115.40		0.52
European Trust	81.81	87.03	+0.51	0.87
Japanese Trust	44.20	47.02	-0.06	
American Trust	107.60	114.40		
LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD 01277 690 432				
UK Cap	408.80	433.70	+1.10	2.36
UK Inc/Gth	440.90	467.80	+1.80	2.98
UK Income	303.80	322.30†	+1.00	3.72
UK Sm Coc	261.80	280.00	-0.20	1.76
Euro Gwth	144.50	153.10	+0.60	
N Amer Gwth	113.60	120.50	+0.30	0.20
Japan Growth	68.60	72.79		
Money Mkt	127.949	127.949	.	0.000
LEGAL & GENERAL (UT MGRS) LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 395				
Equity Dist	535.10	569.30	+3.30	2.61
-do- Accum	£10.80	£11.49	+7.00	2.61
Equity Income #	103.40	110.00	+0.40	4.38
UK Tactical Allocto	62.37	66.23†	+0.36	4.15
European	131.90	139.40	+0.50	1.64
Far Eastern	223.30	237.60		
Fixed Interest	53.73	57.16†	-0.02	7.07
Gilt	92.01	97.57	+0.03	6.28
Global Growth	79.03	84.07†	-0.05	0.36
Intl Bond	56.16	59.73	-0.18	5.27
Japanese	75.56	80.38†	-0.50	
North American	188.60	200.60	-0.60	0.60
Pacific Growth	111.00	118.10	-0.20	0.24
UK Index	70.20	73.72	+0.37	3.07
UK Recovery	104.20	110.80†	+0.40	1.98
UK Smaller Cos	139.70	148.60	+0.40	1.43
US Index	76.98	81.25†	+0.12	1.39
European Index	64.02	68.68	+0.24	2.18
Japan Index	42.99	45.37	-0.04	
Worldwide	91.31	97.14†	+0.13	1.44
LINCOLN NATIONAL 0181 902 8876 Dealing: 0800 282 621				
Growth	53.26	56.96	+0.70	2.16
Income	62.82	67.19	-0.13	3.000
Far East	55.26	59.10	-0.17	
North American	127.90	136.50	+0.30	
Global	105.90	113.20	-0.30	0.19
European	92.95	99.41	+0.58	0.85
Japan	108.30	116.10		0
Intl Currency Bd	62.92	66.67	-0.02	4.19
SE Asia	105.40	112.70	-0.30	
UK Cap Growth	97.25	104.00	+1.50	1.69
Recovery Trust	70.97	75.50†	+0.25	1.47
Managed	71.24	75.78	+0.06	0.64
Cash	51.30	51.42	+0.02	5.19
LLOYDS BK UNIT TST MGRS LTD Helpdesk: 01634 834 339 Dealing: 01634 834 313				
Balanced	373.80	397.70†	+1.30	2.72
-do- Accum	872.50	928.20	+2.90	2.72
Cont Euro Gth	71.41	75.17†	-0.20	1.19
-do- Accum	76.85	80.90	-0.21	1.19
Extra Inc	269.70	287.00†	-0.20	4.19
-do- Accum	725.40	771.80	-0.70	4.19
FTSE 100 Inc	112.10	119.30	+0.50	2.58
FTSE 100 Acc	114.20	121.50	+0.60	2.58
German Gth	135.40	142.60	+0.20	
-do- Accum	142.00	149.50	+0.20	
Growth Port	605.30	641.90	+0.30	0.03
-do- Accum	621.30	660.90	+0.20	0.08
High Interest Inc	98.91	102.50†	-0.40	7.75
High Interest Acc	99.97	103.60	-0.40	7.75
Hi Reserve Inc #	104.90	111.60†	+5.10	6.70
Hi Reserve Acc #	109.00	116.00		6.70
Income	530.10	563.40	+0.80	3.61
-do- Accum	£14.42	£15.35	+2.00	3.61
Income Port	540.10	574.60	-0.40	4.49
-do- Accum	588.40	626.00	-0.50	4.49
Japan Growth	114.20	121.50	-0.80	
-do- Accum	114.60	122.00	-0.70	
Master Trust	63.92	68.01		1.20
-do- Accum	72.62	77.26	-0.01	1.20
N American Gen	228.00	243.70	-0.90	0.80
-do- Accum	264.70	281.60	-1.90	0.60
Ntnl Sm Co Rec	176.10	187.40	+0.30	
-do- Accum	179.80	191.30	+0.30	
Pacific Basin	258.40	274.90	-2.50	0.21
-do- Accum	274.60	292.20	-2.40	0.21
Small Cos Rec	437.50	480.60†	+0.80	1.77
-do- Accum	595.80	627.30	+0.80	1.77
UK Eq Gth	149.20	158.80	+0.80	2.90
UK Eq Inc	120.70	127.90		4.30
US Growth	98.25	102.40	+1.50	2.07
-do- Accum	118.40	126.00	+1.80	2.07
Worldwide Gth	345.50	367.60†	-1.70	
-do- Accum	510.50	543.10	-2.50	
LONDON & MANCHESTER TST MGMT 01392 282 673				
American	81.46	87.26	-0.27	0.40
General	98.37	105.54†	+0.15	2.40
Income	68.99	73.59	+0.01	5.40
International	71.39	76.59	-0.21	0.40
Japan	61.05	65.50	-0.18	
Tst of Inv Trusts	71.58	76.82	+0.20	1.40
M & G SECURITIES Cust Svcs/Unit Dlg: 01245 390 390				
Amer & General	487.40	515.40	-1.80	0.40
-do- Accum	806.40	843.40	-2.20	0.40
Amer Recovery	536.60	567.50†	+0.30	0.50
-do- Accum	618.20	653.90†	+0.40	0.50
Amer Smllr Cos	152.70	161.50	+0.90	
-do- Accum	156.00	165.00	+0.90	
Australasian	170.00	179.80	+1.10	2.42
-do- Accum	209.80	221.90	+1.40	2.42
Capital	897.20	948.60	-1.70	2.96
-do- Accum	1040.50	1100.50	-1.90	2.96
Charifund	719.40	726.60†	-2.20	5.95
-do- Accum	3536.50	3571.90†	-10.60	5.95
Commodity	432.80	456.80	+2.20	0.38
-do- Accum	636.30	672.80	+3.30	0.38
Compound Grth	1024.30	1083.20	-3.40	2.97
-do- Accum	1102.00	1165.40	-3.60	2.97
Dividend	42.70	45.20†	-0.20	4.43
-do- Accum	186.20	197.10†	-0.70	4.43
Equity Income	334.40	353.60	-1.20	5.14
-do- Accum	443.80	469.30	-1.60	5.14
Euro & General	547.40	578.90	+3.40	1.11
-do- Accum	697.80	737.80	+4.30	1.11
Euro Dividend	76.40	80.80		3.79
-do- Accum	94.10	99.60		3.79
Extra Yield	435.50	460.50	-1.70	4.89
-do- Accum	1410.40	1491.60	-5.50	4.89
Far Eastern	361.90	382.70	-1.30	0.41
-do- Accum	482.70	510.50	-1.60	0.41
Fund of Inv Tsts	659.70	696.60†	+1.10	1.95
-do- Accum	1251.40	1323.50†	+2.10	1.95
General	65.60	69.40	-0.20	3.79
-do- Accum	187.70	198.10	-0.50	3.79
Gilt Income	62.53	62.81†	-0.08	6.80
-do- Accum	181.46	181.72†	-0.26	6.80
Gold	67.90	71.80	+0.50	0.68
-do- Accum	80.60	85.10	+0.50	0.68
High Income	30.60	32.40†	-0.20	4.92
-do- Accum	127.90	135.70†	-0.90	4.92
Intl Growth	86.20	91.20	-0.10	0.78
-do- Accum	151.50	160.30	-0.30	0.78
International Inc	105.80	111.90		4.00
-do- Accum	163.50	173.00		4.00
Japan & Gen	44.10	46.60†	+0.10	
-do- Accum	47.30	50.00†	+0.10	
Japan Smlr Cos	150.90	159.60	+0.30	
-do- Accum	151.90	160.70	+0.30	
Managed Gwth	25.40	26.80		1.75
Managed Income	28.80	30.20†	-0.10	4.32
Midland	58.80	62.20	-0.20	3.71
-do- Accum	201.90	213.60	-0.40	3.71
Pension Ex	997.50	1022.50	-3.60	4.35
Recovery	45.20	47.80	-0.10	2.69
-do- Accum	75.20	79.70	-0.10	2.69
Second General	72.20	76.40	-0.20	3.68
-do- Accum	189.70	200.70	-0.60	3.68
Smaller Cos	70.10	74.10	+0.10	3.31
-do- Accum	141.40	149.40		3.31
Sterling Hi Yd	25.81	25.91	-0.05	7.26
Treasury	25.10	25.15†	+0.02	6.32
Trustee	41.60	44.00	-0.20	4.56
-do- Accum	174.00	184.20	-0.80	4.56
MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD Dealing: 01277 261 010 Enq: 01903 204 631				
European Growth	88.93	94.60	-0.07	1.37
Intl Bond	67.84	71.33†	-0.17	5.59
Intl Equity Growth	81.01	86.11†	-0.27	0.60
N Amer Growth	124.88	132.66	-0.48	0.74
Special Sits Growth	24.00	25.53	+0.08	2.30
UK Growth	414.17	440.60	+0.93	2.71
-do- Accum	555.11	590.54	+1.24	2.71
MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD 01620 825867				
Balanced Fd #	1423.50	1444.60†		3.00
Income #	1040.90	1057.90		4.00
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0131 222 4242				
Maldon General	158.10	162.20		3.72
For Manulife see Canada Life				
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD 01244 680 066				
M & S Inv Pfolio	168.20	177.10	+0.17	2.13
-do- Accum	195.70	206.00	+0.17	2.13
UK Sel Pfolio	144.70	152.40†	+0.25	2.50
-do- Accum	172.10	181.10†	+0.26	2.50
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD 01204 364 842				
Managed Tst	74.14	78.88	..	3.80
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD 0131 479 4646				
Intl Income	77.85	82.64†	-0.25	4.18
European	92.68	98.39	-0.08	1.16
Income #	78.37	83.20†	-0.26	4.39
Nth American	82.38	87.45	-0.25	0.42
Far East	171.00	181.50	-0.60	0.05
Japan	62.35	66.19	-0.10	
Emrgng Mkts	84.19	90.04	-0.21	0.02
Intl Growth	122.00	129.50	-0.30	0.57
UK Growth	106.30	112.70†	+0.20	1.63
UK Smlr Co	52.17	55.38†	+0.02	1.34
Asian Opps Fd	37.39	39.99	-0.07	0.44
Glob Gwth PEP	56.61	60.09	+0.01	0.47
MATHESON UNIT TRUSTS LTD 0161 831 7433				
Select Portfolio	98.58	104.79	+0.01	
MAYFLOWER MANAGEMENT CO LTD 0171 407 5966				
Income	449.63	478.33	+1.82	3.71
Global Inc	75.35	80.16	+0.22	3.48
Brit Leaders	383.88	408.38	+1.65	1.71
Intl Leaders	219.40	233.40	-0.12	1.33
PAM Mg Bal Gth	68.60	71.27	-0.18	0.73
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD Dealing: 0171 280 2860				
American	245.10	259.40†	-0.70	
-do- Accum	262.10	277.40†	-0.60	
American Opps	112.40	119.90	-0.10	
-do- Accum	113.70	121.30	-0.10	
British Blue Chip	88.51	94.15	+0.540	2.55
-do- Accum	112.00	119.10	+0.700	2.55
Cash	100.70	100.70		6.45
-do- Accum	143.00	143.00		6.45
Emerging Mkts	107.40	115.50	-0.60	0.12
-do- Accum	108.10	116.20	-0.60	0.12
European Growth	269.00	285.90	-0.40	0.16
-do- Accum	291.80	310.20	-0.40	0.16
European Income	89.76	95.11	-0.83	3.02
-do- Accum	124.70	132.00	-1.20	3.02
General	558.40	595.40	+1.700	2.08
-do- Accum	1114.00	1187.00	+3.000	2.08
Global Bond	134.30	141.10	-0.50	5.23
-do- Accum	169.30	177.80	-0.70	5.23
Gold & General	218.80	235.10	+1.000	0.38
-do- Accum	225.80	242.80	+1.100	0.38
Govt Securities	93.81	96.72†	+0.110	6.07
-do- Accum	191.80	197.70†	+0.200	6.07
High Yield Bd	101.70	105.30†	-0.30	6.67
-do- Accum	103.10	106.70†	-0.30	6.67
Income	170.40	181.30†	+0.300	4.25
-do- Accum	274.20	292.00†	+0.600	4.25
Inc Portfolio	106.20	112.70	+0.100	4.66
-do- Accum	111.00	117.70		4.66
Intl Opps	498.50	531.70†	-2.70	0.17
-do- Accum	670.80	715.50†	-3.60	0.17
Japan	177.40	187.90	-0.80	
-do- Accum	182.10	192.80	-0.80	
New Europe	197.50	210.70	-0.10	0.85
-do- Accum	203.60	217.20	-0.20	0.85
Pacific	115.10	122.80	-0.70	0.83
-do- Accum	122.60	131.00	-0.60	0.83
Recovery	345.00	368.00†	-0.80	0.70
-do- Accum	447.40	477.20†	-0.80	0.70
UK Smaller Cos	57.10	60.91	-0.04	0.85
-do- Accum	65.18	69.53	-0.05	0.85
Portfolio	88.50	94.13	+0.210	2.45
-do- Accum	106.70	113.40	+0.400	2.45
Managed Grth	108.10	113.10		1.68
Managed Inc	112.30	116.60†	-0.20	3.86
METROPOLITAN UT MGRS LTD 01707 662 233				
Eurogrowth Plus	126.70	134.79	-0.32	0.18
Portfolio	73.71	78.41	+0.11	1.53
UK Income Inc	83.77	89.12	-0.24	4.86
MIDLAND UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD Enq: 0345 456 123 Dlg: 0345 456 126				
Balanced	65.00	68.06	-0.26	2.83
-do- Accum	70.45	73.76	-0.29	2.83
British Tst	97.18	101.80	+0.80	2.01
-do- Accum	114.00	119.30	+0.80	2.01
Extra High Inc	70.00	73.30	+0.03	6.45
-do- Accum	141.40	148.02		6.45
FT-SE 100 Acc	62.80	65.75	+0.43	2.52
FT-SE 100 Dist	60.91	63.78	+0.42	2.52
Gilt & Fxd Int	56.49	58.79†	+0.05	6.80
-do- Accum	172.30	179.30†	+0.10	6.60
High Yield	228.10	238.60†	+0.20	5.91
-do- Accum	602.30	630.60†	+0.50	5.91
Income	302.90	317.20	+0.80	4.22
-do- Accum	681.20	713.20	+1.60	4.22
Money Market UT	49.40	49.40†	+0.02	5.64
-do- Accum	80.19	80.19†	+0.03	5.64
Monthly Income	89.91	94.15†	+0.29	4.87
Midland Personal Pension Unit Trust				
British	119.30	126.90	+1.00	1.55
European Growth	116.50	123.40	+0.30	0.02
Gilt & Fixed	95.10	100.90	+0.10	5.50
Income	92.90	98.83	+0.23	2.59
Japan Growth	52.35	56.49	-0.12	...
Managed	77.16	82.08	+1.03	2.14
Money Market	90.84	96.29	+0.05	4.17
North American	105.80	112.20	-0.40	0.40
Midland FSAVCS Unit Trust				
British	108.20	115.10	+0.90	1.54
European Growth	109.40	116.80	+0.30	0.01
Gilt & Fixed Int	90.15	95.65	+0.09	5.50
Income	91.11	96.93	+0.23	2.85
Japan Growth	52.09	55.22	-0.12	
Managed	73.74	78.45	+0.98	2.12
Money Market	83.82	88.65	+0.04	4.14
North American	95.62	101.40	-0.30	0.40
Midland Executive Pension Unit Trust				
British	107.90	114.80	+0.90	1.53
European Growth	106.90	113.30	+0.30	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	82.85	87.90	+0.07	5.61
Income	89.50	95.21	+0.22	2.68
Japan Growth	53.28	56.48	-0.13	
Managed	76.55	81.44	+0.25	2.13
Money Market	77.88	82.56	+0.03	4.22
North American	106.90	113.40	-0.30	0.37
MILLENNIUM FUND MGMT LTD 0171 407 5966				
International (US$)	14.10	14.95		
MORGAN GRENFELL INVEST FDS LTD Dealers: 0171 588 7474 Enquiries: 0171 588 7171				
American Gwth	438.50	465.40	-1.70	
European Gth Inc	596.40	634.50†	+0.80	
-do- Accum	598.80	641.30†	+0.80	
Intl Gwth	222.20	238.30†	+0.20	
UK Equity Inc	204.40	217.50	+1.00	2.94
Do Accum	270.50	287.80	+1.30	2.84
UK Ind Tstee Inc	178.10	190.50	+0.80	2.84
-do- Accum	214.30	229.10	+1.00	2.84
US Eq Ind Tst Inc	255.40	270.78	-0.40	1.01
Japan Tracker	78.77	83.43†	-0.04	
Asian Trader	213.80	231.00	-1.10	0.29
Managed Inc	172.10	184.00†	+0.30	2.10
Deposit Inc	99.80	99.80†	+0.04	6.39
Europa	263.30	283.80	+1.10	
Genesis	179.80	195.10		
High Income	21.56	22.86	+0.09	10.00
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UT MGMT 0345 090 933				
Acumen	103.20	105.50		2.31
Acumen Inc	95.45	97.61	-0.02	2.31
Acumen Reserve	92.08	93.00	-0.17	7.96
-do- Inc	75.47	76.22	-0.14	7.96
American Growth	62.52	64.49	-0.09	
Cash Income	49.74	49.74†	+0.01	6.13
Equity Income #	98.38	101.10†	+0.10	4.79
European	76.51	77.89	-0.20	0.25
Smaller Cos	83.55	87.70†	+1.29	1.29
Wwide Eqty	71.57	73.39	-0.02	0.32
Global Bond	46.77	47.32†	-0.23	6.39
UK Growth	103.40	106.20	+0.10	2.02
Pacific Growth	111.90	118.00	-0.20	0.80
Japan Growth	107.50	108.40	-0.60	
NFU MUTUAL UNIT MGRS LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Avon Equity	137.18	145.94	+0.32	2.47
N&P UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD 0161 237 5322				
UK Growth	82.36	87.62	+0.47	2.16
UK Income	115.34	122.70†	+0.41	3.96
Higher Income	222.71	236.93	+2.64	5.25
Smaller Cos	90.44	96.21	-0.10	1.85
International	105.91	112.67†	+0.25	1.58
NPI INVESTMENT MGRS 0171 623 4200				
Americas Dist	123.90	131.80†	-0.80	0.30
European Dist	130.50	138.80†	+0.50	0.20
Far East Dist	191.90	204.10	-1.20	
Global Care Dist	81.39	86.58†	+0.05	0.67
Oseas Dist	1138.40	1211.10	+0.30	0.01
-do- Accum	1477.60	1571.90	+0.40	0.01
UK Dist	387.30	411.90†	+1.40	2.55
-do- Accum	776.80	826.40	+3.00	2.55
UK Extra Inc Dist	86.91	92.46	+0.12	3.54
Wwide Dist	117.20	124.70		0.30
Wwide Inc Dist	79.53	84.61	+0.14	2.29
NATIONAL WESTMINSTER UT MGRS Dlg: 01277 690 290 Admin Enq: 01277 690 396				
Europe Inc	69.47	73.32	-0.08	1.09
Fund of Funds Inc	64.61	68.19	+0.12	2.20
North America Inc	64.33	67.89	-0.25	
UK Equity Gth Inc	63.90	67.44†	+0.19	2.55
-do- Accum	67.86	71.62	+0.20	2.55
UK General Inc	82.89	88.37	+0.24	2.77
UK Gilt/Fx Int Inc	49.00	51.62	+0.06	7.01
UK Income Inc	61.66	65.08†	+0.30	3.46
NEWTON FUND MGRS LTD Enquiries: 0500 550 000 Dealing: 0500 440 000				
American Tst	45.56	48.47	-0.38	
-do- Accum	45.92	48.85	-0.38	
Bond	126.65	134.48	-0.20	5.61
Bridge Fund	92.88	98.91		2.16
Cash Income	50.17	50.17†	+0.02	5.90
-do- Accum	66.66	66.66†	+0.03	5.90
Distribution	98.52	104.81†	+0.06	3.31
European	47.96	51.02	+0.21	
Foundation	101.15	107.59	+0.11	2.35
General	206.53	219.71	-0.66	1.59
Global	353.91	376.50	-1.53	0.18
Growth	131.98	140.40	-0.03	2.59
Higher Income Inc	30.32	32.26	-0.36	4.55
-do- Accum	35.45	37.71	-0.42	4.55
Income	352.12	369.26†	-1.99	3.13
Intrepid	133.34	138.90†		1.95
Japan	26.46	28.15	-0.07	
Managed Tst Inc	52.78	56.44		2.07
-do- Accum	56.26	60.17		2.07
Oriental Inc	152.76	162.51	-0.37	0.22
-do- Accum	157.63	167.69	-0.38	0.22
Pers. Inc Gwth	34.16	36.34	-0.07	0.40
Royal Scottish Assurance				
Cap Hse Global Inc	82.12	87.82	+0.30	1.56
NORTHERN ROCK UNIT TRUST LTD 0191 285 2555				
Managed	107.00	113.20		2.26
NORWICH UNION TST MANAGERS 01603 682 234				
Master Trust	134.06	141.12	+0.10	1.28
UK Equity	153.81	161.90	+0.71	3.00
UK Equity Income	140.08	147.45†	+0.46	3.45
UK Smaller Cos	124.27	130.81	-0.11	1.67
UK Equity Growth	144.79	152.41	+0.75	2.27
UK Index Trckg	156.45	164.68	+0.75	3.43
Intl Index Trckg	168.31	175.06	-0.08	0.98
International	264.07	277.97†	-0.20	0.67
European	225.00	236.84	+0.84	0.23
Pan European	149.38	157.24†	+0.63	1.30
Nth American	217.87	229.34†	-0.13	0.12
N Amer Smlr Cos	231.00	243.16	-0.09	
Japanese	95.94	100.99†	-0.38	
Pacific	240.42	253.07†	-1.25	0.68
South East Asian	265.69	279.67	-2.02	0.89
Intl Bond	144.64	152.25	+0.12	4.39
Gilt & Convertible	111.58	117.45	+0.15	6.00
Property	77.18	81.24†	+0.08	6.97
OLD MUTUAL FUND MGRS LTD 01256 768 888				
European Inc	256.80	275.30	-0.80	0.42
-do- Accum	271.70	291.30	-0.90	0.42
Japan Inc	108.30	115.60	+0.10	
Nth American Inc	122.00	130.80	-0.30	0.31
Worldwide Inc	168.60	181.00	-0.30	0.39
Hong Kong Inc	151.50	162.60	-0.80	1.57
Swiss Equities Inc	85.26	91.04	+0.81	0.11
Wwide Bond Inc	67.39	71.30	-0.14	4.92
Emrgng Asia Inc	209.20	227.50†	-1.50	0.14
-do- Accum	210.00	228.40	-1.40	0.14
UK Money Mkt Inc	50.25	50.25†	+0.01	6.41
Thailand Inc	163.40	178.50†	-0.40	1.26
New Zealand Inc	95.15	102.10	-0.30	1.83
Intl Mngd PEP Inc	66.79	71.61	+0.15	1.41
Latin Am Crap Inc	56.29	61.09	-0.31	0.31
UK All Sh Mkr Inc	65.55	70.35	+0.35	2.45
Broker Unit Trusts				
Global Trustees	85.91	91.88	-0.20	
Global Portfolio	75.95	80.98	-1.33	
Global Opps	68.40	72.84	-1.03	
Marsh Global Grth	65.54	69.27	-1.16	
AAM Global Equity	55.90	59.25	-0.03	2.13
CAM Brit Gwth Inc	102.30	108.60		
Temple Equity Inc	45.48	49.68	+0.02	2.26
Hartley Growth	96.16	102.30	+0.90	
Intl Growth Inc	90.04	96.30	-0.18	1.01
IPS Portfolio Inc	89.64	95.87	+1.51	
Premier Portnrs Inc	70.27	75.16	-0.06	1.74
Roxborgh Strat Gth	76.24	81.54	-0.05	0.47
Slater Gwth	116.90	124.40	+0.70	
International Strat	80.88	86.61	+0.05	
UFC Ind-Act Gth	80.01	84.18	-0.33	
Cowdrie Topout	52.45	56.74	-0.09	
Prem Equity Inc	113.20	123.80	+0.30	
Lowes Intl Growth	52.07	54.81	+0.01	
PEARL UNIT TRUSTS LTD Dlg: 0800 826 577 Enq: 01733 470 470				
Equity	258.50	274.90†	+0.70	2.58
-do- Accum	558.50	594.10	+1.50	2.58
Growth	169.30	178.37	+0.42	2.63
Income	252.50	268.60	+0.10	3.73
Intl Equity	276.90	294.10	-0.50	0.72
-do- Accum	307.90	327.50	-0.50	0.72
UK Income	70.18	74.66	+0.06	3.22
UK Intl 25	87.01	92.56	+0.12	2.04
New Europe	88.42	94.06	-0.12	0.35
PERPETUAL UNIT TST MGMT 01491 417 000				
Intl Growth Inc	670.90	717.55	-0.57	0.35
-do- Accum	673.54	720.37	-0.57	0.35
Income	406.33	434.58	+2.07	3.03
Wwide Recovery	433.83	463.99	-0.36	0.43
Amer Growth Inc	282.14	301.76	+0.50	0.01
-do- Accum	282.14	301.76	+0.50	0.01
Intl Emerging Cos	266.52	285.05	+0.28	0.13
Far Estn Grth Inc	294.07	314.52†	-1.29	0.50
-do- Accum	295.41	315.95	-1.29	0.50
Euro Gwth Inc	166.25	177.81†	-2.03	0.10
-do- Accum	166.80	178.40	-2.03	0.10
UK Growth Inc	105.87	113.23	+0.41	2.55
-do- Accum	111.37	119.12	+0.43	2.55
High Income	108.25	115.78	+0.36	3.80
Jap Gwth Inc	222.84	237.57	-1.18	0.01
-do- Accum	222.84	237.57	-1.18	0.01
PEP Growth	135.25	144.66	-0.09	0.77
Asian Sir Mkts Inc	126.61	135.42	-2.37	0.44
-do- Accum	126.61	135.42	-2.37	0.44
Amer Smlr Co Inc	175.25	187.44†	-0.94	0.01
-do- Accum	175.25	187.44	-0.94	0.01
Global Bond	58.33	61.42	-0.13	5.97
UK Smaller Cos Inc	95.55	102.20	+0.14	1.50
-do- Accum	100.54	107.53	+0.14	1.50
PILGRIM UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 0181 291 3927				
American	122.31	130.12†	-0.14	
European	81.26	86.45	-0.12	..
Global	87.23	71.52†	+0.21	
Pacific	61.02	64.91	+0.32	
UK Inc & Grth	71.13	75.67	-0.22	2.20
PORTFOLIO FUND MGMT LTD Enq: 0171 638 0808 Dlg: 01277 690 438				
Fund of Funds	179.98	190.45	-0.60	0.82
Emrg Mkts	44.54	47.13	-1.61	1.10
High Income #	53.57	56.69†	-0.25	5.73
PRINCIPAL UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 01732 740 700				
Principal Tst	155.92	165.88	+0.24	1.91
PROLIFIC UNIT TST MGRS LTD Enquiries: 0171 280 3700 Dealing: 0800 282 443				
American Income	112.60	119.80		3.15
Conv & Gilt	111.90	119.10†	+0.10	6.02
European Income	79.11	84.16	+0.04	3.29
Extra Income	169.90	180.70†	+0.40	5.27
-do- Accum	213.80	227.40	+0.50	5.27
Far East	403.90	429.70	-1.10	0.24
-do- Accum	412.40	438.70	-1.10	0.24
Global Income	27.92	29.71	-0.02	5.12
High Income	125.60	133.60	-1.10	4.28
-do- Accum	155.10	165.00	-1.50	4.28
International	206.40	219.60	-0.70	0.71
-do- Accum	213.70	227.30	-0.70	0.71
Pref & Fxd Int	44.48	47.32	+0.14	7.18
Recovery	76.58	81.47	+0.14	2.58
Special Sits	120.50	128.20†	+0.20	1.60
-do- Accum	132.60	141.10	+0.20	1.60
Technology	660.40	702.60	+3.20	
UK Blue Chip	77.19	82.12	+0.29	3.24
-do- Accum	88.10	93.72	+0.33	3.24
PROVIDENT MUTUAL UT MGRS LTD 0171 585 3963				
Equity Gth	223.70	238.00		1.52
European Gth	116.80	124.00	+0.20	0.93
Income & Gth #	149.30	158.80	-0.30	3.22
Japan Gth	120.10	127.80		
Nth Amer Gth	197.30	209.90	-0.30	0.88
Overseas Gth	115.00	122.30	+0.10	0.27
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD 0161 478 3927 Client Enq: 0171 911 4490				
Managed Tst	42.54	44.08	+0.53	1.68
Cash Haven Inc	101.20	101.70†	+0.04	5.76
Cash Haven Acc	115.14	115.70†	+0.04	5.76
Dist Trust Inc	104.16	107.93	+0.07	5.80
Dist Trust Acc	112.05	116.11	+0.75	4.99
Global Growth	99.86	105.34	+0.92	1.39
Equity Inc	87.95	93.58†	+1.48	3.86
Equity	820.08	872.37	+4.63	2.17
European	233.85	248.54†	+2.10	0.73
High Income	90.43	96.20†	-0.03	4.96
Gilt Gth	209.44	222.80	-0.05	0.85
Intl Sm Co	89.06	94.74	+0.03	0.45
Japanese	225.62	233.80	+0.13	
Nth Amer	219.72	227.88†	-0.81	1.08
Pacific Mkts	114.64	116.79	-0.44	0.28
Premier Inc	49.52	51.54		6.49
Sm Cos	100.98	107.42	+0.15	1.42
Spec Sits	119.86	127.50	+1.95	2.54
UK Growth	138.29	147.11	+2.17	2.10
RELIANCE UNIT MGRS LTD 01892 510 033				
British Life	323.20	342.80	+0.80	3.19
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT Dealers: 0171 623 1000				
FA America (Inc)	629.96	669.82	-1.29	0.59
FA America (Acc)	738.73	783.36	-1.51	0.59
FA UK Equity Inc	168.84	178.33†	+0.14	3.50
FA Japan	257.72	274.31	-1.85	
FA Major UK Cos	104.07	110.86†	+0.38	2.26
FA Smllr UK Cos	330.86	358.65	-0.47	1.25
FA European	356.54	379.00	-2.74	0.54
FA Amer Smllr Cos	56.78	60.77	-0.23	0.06
FA Asia	52.47	58.31	-0.10	0.06
FA Jap Smllr Cos	43.75	46.79	+0.04	
RAM Personal Pension				
UK Major Cos	108.93	114.65	+0.40	
UK Smllr Cos	96.43	101.50	-0.13	
UK Income	106.80	112.41	+0.07	
America	126.93	133.60	-0.25	
Japanese	55.94	58.93	-0.40	
European	114.98	121.02	-0.88	
Gilt	97.35	102.46	+0.38	
Deposit	87.14	91.72	+0.04	
Managed	108.93	114.65	+0.14	
RAM FSAVC Scheme				
UK Major Cos	105.95	111.52	+0.39	
UK Smaller Cos	94.08	99.00	-0.13	
UK Income	104.08	109.53	+0.08	
America	123.39	129.88	-0.24	
Japanese	55.36	58.27	-0.39	
European	111.68	117.76	-0.85	
Gilt	95.57	100.59	+0.20	
Deposit	83.25	87.63	+0.05	
Managed	102.35	107.73	+0.32	
ROYAL LIFE FD MGMT LTD Prices: 01733 282 828 Gen Enq: 01733 390 000				
United States	107.70	114.60	-0.80	0.27
Pacific Basin	78.50	84.44	-0.16	0.27
High Inc Dist	145.50	155.70	+0.60	4.38
Ryl Life Intl Cncy	62.80	66.80	+0.03	4.02
Ryl Life Intl Gwth	75.25	80.40	-0.18	0.13
Ryl Life Intl Spec	69.06	73.46	-0.25	
UK Emerging Cos	138.20	149.30	-0.60	1.03
UK Index Trckg	183.10	195.10†		3.16
European	147.60	158.50†	-0.20	
Managed	166.90	179.40	-0.30	0.86
ROYAL LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD 01206 764 400				
American Growth	180.10	191.50	+1.00	1.68
European Growth	122.40	129.80	+0.50	2.53
Far East Growth	141.70	150.80	+0.60	2.01
Japan Growth	137.90	146.60†	+0.40	
Special Sits	228.10	242.80	-0.60	1.23
UK Growth	88.02	93.81†	-0.37	2.08
Triton General	270.20	287.50	+0.60	1.03
ST JAMES'S PLACE UT GROUP LTD 0141 307 6500				
Far East Inc	168.40	178.20	-0.70	0.05
Gtr Euro Prog Inc	350.40	370.80	...	0.23
-do- Accum	547.30	579.20		0.23
Growth Inc	143.60	152.00	-0.30	0.28
-do- Accum	147.20	155.80	-0.30	0.26
International Inc	369.00	390.50	-0.90	0.17
-do- Accum	508.70	538.30	-1.30	0.17
Nth Am & Intl Inc	380.90	402.10	-2.40	0.33
UK Gen Prog Inc	238.80	252.70	+0.80	1.69
-do- Accum	268.70	284.30	+0.80	1.69
UK High Inc Inc	140.00	149.20	+0.10	3.62
SANWA INTL INVEST SERVICES LTD 0171 330 0572				
American Gwth	78.16	83.15†	+0.17	...
Asian Gwth	115.96	123.38	-0.25	0.75
European Gwth	78.49	83.49†	-0.02	1.00
Global Bd	62.41	65.89	-0.23	5.88
Global Eq	64.90	69.03†	-0.03	0.50
Japan Sml Cos	58.70	62.44	-0.49	
UK Gwth	75.52	80.76†	+0.18	1.75
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP 01708 766 966				
Amer Inc & Gwth #	86.67	92.20†	+0.03	3.26
Amer Smllr Cos	141.70	150.70		
Asian Smaller Cos	42.80	45.53	-0.06	
Capital Portfolio	139.00	147.90	-0.30	1.75
Cash	130.60	132.60		6.17
China Dragon	59.33	63.12	+0.69	1.46
Commodity	134.70	143.30	+0.20	
Eastern Discovery	103.60	110.20	-0.10	
Emerging Mkts	36.24	38.55	-0.16	0.04
Energy Inds	134.20	142.80		0.15
European Gwth	203.60	216.60†	+0.20	0.21
Euro Inc & Gwth #	84.97	90.39	+0.06	1.87
Euro Smlr Cos	59.18	62.96†	-0.31	0.08
Extra Income #	54.93	58.79†	-0.08	5.60
Financial Secs	256.40	272.80†	-0.40	1.22
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc #	50.12	52.92	-0.05	8.75
Gold & Exploration	81.15	86.33	-0.07	
High Return #	243.80	259.40	-0.50	3.92
High Yield #	244.40	260.00	-0.40	3.68
Income #	127.10	135.20	-0.20	4.16
Intl Bond	176.80	186.40	-0.10	5.42
ITU	224.90	239.30	+0.60	0.81
Japan Growth	179.00	190.40	-0.20	
Japan Smaller	176.80	188.10	-0.40	
Korea	65.67	69.86†	-0.08	
Moneyfund	59.77	63.58†	-0.08	0.94
Scotbits	387.00	411.70	-0.60	0.90
Scotshares #	324.00	344.70†	-0.40	1.84
Scotyields #	260.70	277.30	-0.60	3.82
Select Intl	150.50	160.10	-0.20	0.47
Smaller Cos Inc #	247.70	263.50	-0.30	4.56
SE Asia	52.48	55.78	-0.15	0.22
Special Situation	144.10	153.30	-0.20	1.79
UK Equity #	272.80	290.20	-0.20	2.57
UK Growth	73.52	78.21	-0.05	1.79
UK & O'seas	183.90	195.60	-0.30	1.22
UK Smllr Cos Gwth	53.43	56.84	+0.14	1.52
US Growth	192.40	204.70	+0.30	0.13
Univ Growth	151.10	160.70	-0.20	0.39
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD Clnt: 0800 526 535 Brkr: 0800 526 540				
Retail Funds				
American	315.52	334.47†	-1.35	0.97
-do- Accum	347.15	368.01†	-1.48	0.97
European Gwth	83.62	88.71	+0.17	0.91
Euro Smllr Cos	89.65	95.42	-0.03	0.48
Far Eastern Gth	101.86	108.65	-0.55	
-do- Accum	103.71	110.62	-0.55	
Gilt & Fixed Int #	53.45	56.35	-0.10	7.27
Global Bond #	54.57	56.39	-0.06	6.89
-do- Accum #	61.38	63.43	-0.06	6.89
Global Emer Mkts	52.01	55.47	-0.22	
-do- Accum	52.06	55.52	-0.22	
Income #	382.27	407.75	+0.55	5.09
-do- Accum #	£12.43	£13.26	+1.78	5.09
Japan Smllr Cos	451.53	481.63	+0.30	
-do- Accum	452.44	482.59	+0.29	
Japan Enterprise	72.21	77.02	-0.60	
Pacific Gwth	141.92	151.38	-0.33	0.52
-do- Accum	146.51	156.27	-0.33	0.52
Portfolio	89.38	95.33	+0.08	1.97
-do- Accum	97.72	104.23	+0.09	1.97
Seoul	51.22	54.63	-0.35	
-do- Accum	51.22	54.63	-0.35	
Smaller Cos	249.27	265.88	+0.22	1.28
Tokyo	128.79	137.37	-0.04	
-do- Accum	130.09	138.76	-0.04	
UK Enterprise	302.76	322.84	+0.53	2.12
-do- Accum	365.88	390.26	+0.64	2.12
UK Equity	271.68	289.79	+0.61	2.60
-do- Accum	535.05	570.71	+1.19	2.60
US Smllr Cos	207.45	221.27†	-0.62	
-do- Accum	207.45	221.27†	-0.62	
Institutional Funds				
European	265.79	275.96	-0.64	1.39
-do- Accum	297.34	308.73	-0.71	1.39
Euro Smllr Cos	30.52	31.79	-0.11	1.48
-do- Accum	32.79	34.15	-0.11	1.48
Global Equity Inc	86.73	90.34†	-0.29	1.11
Japan Smllr Cos	37.98	39.45	-0.01	0.12
-do- Accum	38.20	39.79	-0.01	0.12
Mngd Balanced	210.64	219.41†		2.88
-do- Accum	242.25	252.33†		2.88
Overseas Equity	212.64	221.50	-0.96	1.09
-do- Accum	220.91	230.11	-1.00	1.09
Oseas Smlr Cos	133.69	139.46	-0.46	0.96
-do- Accum	140.35	146.20	-0.48	0.96
Pacific	262.53	273.46†	-0.29	1.39
-do- Accum	290.09	302.17†	-0.31	1.39
Recovery	120.63	121.49	-1.09	3.08
-do- Accum	122.17	123.09	-1.18	3.08
UK Index	170.79	177.90	+0.44	3.38
-do- Accum	214.86	223.81	+0.55	3.38
UK Small Cos	122.16	127.25	-0.10	2.79
-do- Accum	132.55	138.07	-0.11	2.79
US Smlr Cos	59.37	61.84†	+0.14	0.54
-do- Accum	60.73	63.25†	-0.15	0.54
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UT MGRS LTD 0141 204 2200				
Equity Income	56.53	59.78	-0.36	2.29
Equity Trust	70.02	74.05	-0.19	3.07
Equity Strategy	81.65	86.34	-0.36	1.15
European Opps	97.87	103.50	-0.70	0.75
UK Smaller Cos	72.41	76.57	-0.12	1.48
Maximum Inc	99.64	102.22	+0.03	6.69
Japanese	82.00	86.72	-0.30	
Asia Pacific	126.80	134.09	-0.84	3.24
American	125.11	132.30	-0.42	0.56
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE FD MGRS LTD 0800 454 422				
Cash	32.12	32.12	+0.07	6.178
UK General Inc	57.81	61.66	+0.07	2.60
-do- Accum	75.97	81.04	+0.10	2.80
Intl Income	285.70	304.80†	-0.30	1.56
-do- Accum	499.20	532.50†	-0.50	1.56
European	90.01	95.31	-0.15	1.87
Japan	70.95	75.21†	-0.18	0.77
American	87.16	92.34	-0.42	2.49
Far East	88.18	94.06	-0.36	2.40
Ethical Inc	33.78	36.10	-0.05	3.25
UK Blue Chip Inc	37.68	40.30	+0.08	4.07
High Inc Inc	38.98	41.15†	-0.02	3.50
UK Global Inc	44.73	47.82	-0.07	1.73
Wwide Tact	77.80	83.21	-0.24	2.06
Europe 2000 Tact	59.47	63.60	-0.04	2.61
Technology	142.22	151.84†	-0.19	0.97
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS 0131 225 2211				
UK Equity	434.20	463.70	+2.30	2.63
American	329.30	349.50	-1.00	0.50
Pacific	412.70	441.40	-0.40	0.42
European	600.30	642.00	+1.20	1.28
Worldwide	98.18	105.00	-0.30	0.51
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INV MGRS LTD 0141 248 6100				
UK Equity Inc	301.20	320.50†	+1.60	2.30
-do- Accum	389.90	414.80†	+2.20	2.30
UK Sir Co Eq Inc	230.00	244.70†	+0.40	1.57
-do- Accum	281.30	299.30†	+0.40	1.57
Select Oppnty Inc	78.24	83.68	+0.50	1.57
Income Plus Inc	79.36	84.43	+0.18	1.96
European Inc	383.10	407.60	+0.22	3.27
-do- Accum	436.40	464.30	+0.20	1.41
Far Eastern Inc	178.90	190.40	-0.50	0.88
-do- Accum	205.70	218.90	-0.60	0.88
Japanese Inc	64.55	68.69	-0.15	
Nth American Inc	298.90	318.00	+0.10	0.28
-do- Accum	330.50	351.60	+0.10	0.28
Intl Growth Inc	224.00	238.40†	-0.30	0.35
Wwide Venture Inc	88.30	93.94	-0.12	0.15
SCOTTISH WIDOWS' FUND MGMT 0131 655 5724				
Equity Inc	406.90	433.90	-2.70	2.48
-do- Accum	611.10	651.90	-4.10	2.48
UK High Inc	197.20	210.30	-1.10	3.41
-do- Accum	295.50	315.20	-1.60	3.41
Europe Inc	429.40	458.00	-1.40	0.46
Nth Amer Inc	284.10	303.00	-0.20	...
Global Inc	242.20	258.30	-1.60	0.23
Global Acc	260.90	278.30	-1.60	0.23
UK Spec Sits Inc	113.10	120.60	-1.10	2.98
South East Asia	227.90	243.10	-1.50	0.43
Cash Trust Inc	100.10	100.10	+0.10	5.99
UK Smllr Cos Inc	111.80	119.30	-0.10	2.08
-do- Accum	115.70	123.40	-0.20	2.08
Intl Bond Inc	100.50	106.60	-0.20	5.25
SEMPER EADEM FUND MGMT LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Sector Recovery	152.80	160.50	+0.30	4.16
SHARP (ALBERT E) Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
European	144.50	152.10	-0.20	0.94
Nth American	132.70	139.70	-0.10	0.17
Intl Bond & Conv	128.30	135.10†	-0.20	6.60
Pooled Pension (E)	215.30	231.40†	+0.70	2.10
Smaller Cos	94.94	98.94†	+0.13	1.02
UK General	149.90	157.80†	+0.50	2.46
Far Eastern	99.47	104.70	-0.20	
SINGER & FRIEDLANDER INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD 0171 626 6226				
Amer Gth Fund ‡	123.72	...	-0.11	
Aztec ‡	83.80	...	+0.07	
European ‡	145.66	...	-0.22	0.29
Global Bond ‡	97.66	...	-0.21	8.09
Investment Trust ‡	104.97	...	+0.19	2.05
Preferred Income ‡	101.56	...	-0.17	5.92
Samurai ‡	55.91	...	-0.32	
Sterling Reserve ‡	100.98	...	+0.06	6.00
UK Growth ‡	104.25	...	-0.26	2.40
Tai Pan ‡	101.61	...	+0.04	
UK Emerg Leaders ‡	182.65	...	-0.05	2.91
UK Equity Inc ‡	107.06	...	+0.18	5.63
Glob Gwth PEP	70.40	74.89	-0.19	1.30
Pref Inc PEP #	102.20	108.10	+0.20	5.09
Inv Trust PEP	52.31	55.64	+0.20	...
SMITH & WILLIAMSON UT MGRS 0171 637 5377				
American	399.20	422.40	-8.60	...
Canadian	72.30	76.60	+0.02	0.47
Capital	138.80	146.40	-0.10	1.65
Cash	101.08	101.08	+0.02	6.25
European	146.70	155.20†	-0.40	0.70
Far Eastern	162.00	171.40	-0.20	...
Growth	151.60	160.40	-0.50	1.30
Income	136.80	143.70	-0.70	4.84
Magnum	149.40	160.00	-0.10	1.66
Smllr Secs	458.40	485.00	-0.50	0.60
Thoroughbred	173.00	185.40	-0.20	1.41
SOVEREIGN UNIT TST MGRS LTD 01202 298 422				
Cntrld Prtness	55.96	59.85	-0.07	7.00
Ethical	70.30	75.59	-0.13	0.50
European Growth	78.90	83.94	+0.16	1.90
Income	57.58	61.61†	+0.03	4.30
Intl Growth	107.90	115.00	+0.10	1.60
Managed	89.85	95.94	+0.23	2.30
UK Growth	71.57	76.95	+0.09	1.50
STANDARD LIFE UNIT TRUSTS 0800 393 777				
Standard Life Fund Mngmt Ltd				
Global Advtg Inc	44.64	44.87	-0.10	1.61
Global Advtg Acc	48.15	48.40	-0.10	1.61
Income Advtg Inc	34.47	34.65†	-0.20	3.26
Income Advtg Acc	39.27	39.47	-0.30	3.26
UK Equity Gth Acc	80.50	85.34	-0.70	1.25
Premier Inc Inc	49.49	52.09	...	6.91
Premier Inc Acc	50.47	53.12	...	8.97
Managed Acc	58.12	61.61	-0.10	1.33
UK Eq Hi Inc Inc	39.62	42.00	-0.20	3.48
UK Eq Hi Inc Acc	50.76	53.81	-0.30	3.48
Standard Life Tst Mngmt Ltd				
UK Equity Gen Acc	71.27	75.73	-0.40	2.04
UK Equity Gen Inc	51.93	55.18	-0.30	2.04
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	32.31	34.17		6.06
Oseas Lrg Co Acc	357.80	388.30	+1.50	1.64
Nth American Acc	55.04	59.55	+0.40	0.02
Pacific Basin	44.58	47.37	-0.10	0.83
European Acc	56.95	60.51	+0.30	0.98
Japan Acc	28.81	30.62	+0.10	...
STATE STREET UT MGMT LTD 0171 344 7000				
Global A (WS)	4.285	4.592		1.78
US Eqty (US$)	3.045	3.230		0.99
Far East Eqty (yen)	258.20	272.10		
FT Europe	143.30	152.20		1.28
FT N Amer (US$)	2.326	2.466		0.44
FT Japan (yen)	222.50	236.30		
FT Asia Exjap (US$)	2.643	2.807		0.87
STEWART IVORY UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0131 226 3271				
American	466.70	495.50	-1.30	...
British #	1160.60	1227.90	-6.00	3.17
Emerging Mkts	133.50	142.80	+0.60	0.45
European	580.80	618.60	+1.80	0.52
Japan	143.10	153.10	-0.30	
New Pacific	401.30	427.40	+0.90	1.53
-do- Accum	427.80	455.60	+1.00	1.53
Inv Trust Acc	280.50	297.80	+0.80	0.92
Mngd Equity	191.90	203.00	+0.50	1.84
Mngd Cash	96.24	96.24	+0.04	6.22
SUN ALLIANCE UNIT TST MGMT LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 380				
Equity	959.00	1026.00	+5.00	2.26
North America	167.80	179.30	-0.80	
Far East	156.90	167.80	-0.50	
Wwide Bond	61.84	65.82	-0.04	5.02
European	115.10	123.10	+0.10	1.45
Equity Income #	99.65	106.90†	+0.30	5.06
Portfolio	98.54	105.50	+0.20	1.85
UK Leading Cos	70.57	75.27	+0.50	3.18
Broker Trusts				
Intl Equity	71.66	76.64	-0.15	
SUN LIFE OF CANADA UT MGRS LTD 0800 525 725				
Asstrs UT	22.92	24.39†	-0.11	1.01
European	44.29	47.12†	+0.07	0.79
High Income	34.30	36.49	+0.07	4.12
Japan	37.68	40.09†	-0.20	0.03
Managed Assets	138.89	146.41	+0.45	2.51
North American	39.81	42.35†	+0.03	0.45
Smlr Co's Inc	32.22	34.28	-0.08	2.04
Smlr Co's Acc	34.82	37.05†	-0.08	2.04
UK Growth Inc	66.51	70.78	+0.26	2.73
UK Growth Acc	66.48	70.73†	+0.28	2.73
UK Income	43.10	48.10†	+0.15	3.38
Worldwide Gth	38.97	41.66†	-0.02	0.69
Contraflexion				
Canadian Exmpt	65.63	67.67	-0.56	2.03
European Exmpt	91.71	94.55	+0.28	2.07
Pacific Exmpt	62.99	64.93†	-0.22	1.11
US Exmpt	93.21	96.10	+0.01	1.51
SUN LIFE TRUST MGMT LTD Admin & Enq: 0171 606 4044 Dlg: 0171 606 6010				
Discretionary	54.17	57.69	-0.21	
Cap Protector Inc	43.12	45.87	-0.28	2.82
UK Income Inc	55.74	59.30	-0.02	3.21
Mngd Extra Inc Inc #	34.48	36.68	-0.10	5.12
Mngd High Yld Inc	84.19	89.58†	-0.09	4.42
Mngd Inc/Gth Inc	80.10	85.21†	-0.01	3.31
UK Smaller Cos	37.16	39.53	-0.06	1.70
Pacific Gth Port	50.09	53.29	-0.06	0.69
TSB UNIT TRUSTS 01264 346 794				
American	268.97	284.62	-2.03	...
-do- Accum	296.25	313.50	-2.23	...
Brit Growth	109.81	116.20	+0.60	1.96
-do- Accum	134.58	142.41	+0.74	1.96
European	116.48	123.26	+0.37	
-do- Accum	123.98	131.19	+0.39	
Extra Income	201.57	213.30	+0.83	3.73
-do- Accum	355.21	375.89	+1.47	3.73
Smaller Cos	79.73	84.37	+0.14	1.05
-do- Accum	90.62	95.89	+0.15	1.05
General	325.08	344.00	+1.61	2.27
-do- Accum	681.07	720.71	+3.80	2.27
Premier Income	51.93	54.09	-0.08	6.56
-do- Accum	123.52	128.68	-0.19	6.56
Income	348.15	368.41†	+1.44	3.52
-do- Accum	790.71	836.73†	+3.26	3.52
Pacific	423.69	448.34	-1.19	...
-do- Accum	445.19	471.10	-1.24	...
International	605.51	640.75†	-1.05	...
-do- Accum	797.78	844.21†	-1.28	...
Nat Resources	178.61	189.22	-0.04	...
Stckt Opps	122.35	129.47	+0.46	1.58
-do- Accum	158.23	167.44	+0.60	1.58
Environmental Inv	70.30	74.39	+0.40	1.41
Selector	68.63	72.63†	+0.26	1.50
-do- Accum	78.88	83.47†	+0.29	1.50
High Income	67.78	71.73	+0.26	4.18
-do- Accum	88.38	93.53	+0.34	4.18
Intl Income	63.81	67.52	-0.02	5.11
-do- Accum	81.71	86.47	-0.02	5.11
Selector Income	64.48	68.24†	+0.15	4.17
-do- Accum	78.85	83.44†	+0.18	4.17
TU FUND MANAGERS LIMITED 0181 667 1018				
British	369.63	389.08	+1.95	2.79
TEMPLETON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0131 469 4000				
Glob Growth Inc	224.12	239.70	-0.33	2.25
Glob Balncd Inc	186.99	199.99	-0.84	3.61
Value Tst Inc	130.97	140.07†	-0.32	2.10
THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD 0171 246 3000 Dealing: 0171 246 3001				
Dresdner Eur Bd	45.39	47.21	+0.04	6.77
European Growth	305.22	619.60	+0.62	0.40
Exempt	604.83	632.36	+3.36	2.63
Global Em Mkts	79.85	83.61	+0.78	0.37
Japan Tst	86.38	90.44	-0.98	
Latin Dragons	92.97	97.35	-0.29	
Nth Amer Grth	283.32	296.67	+0.14	0.49
Oriental Income #	46.66	48.85	-0.32	2.27
Preference	129.74	135.85	+0.45	8.64
Tiger	287.12	300.64	-1.26	
UK Blue Chip	72.09	75.48	+0.44	1.75
UK Grower	588.11	615.82	+2.39	2.06
UK High Yield #	108.02	113.10	+0.17	4.44
UK Mid-Cap	275.52	288.50	-0.27	2.16
UK Smlr Cos	116.29	121.76	-0.03	0.86
UK Smlr Cos Div #	88.38	92.54	+0.21	5.24
UNITED FRIENDLY UT TST MGMT LTD 01277 690 396				
UK Equity Income	106.46	113.25	+0.31	3.44
UK Equity Growth	94.68	100.72	+0.34	2.75
European	74.07	78.80	-0.01	1.48
Nth American	83.32	88.64†	-0.76	0.16
Far Eastern	75.91	80.76†	+0.20	0.95
Money	89.38	89.38	+0.02	5.26
Fixed Interest	77.68	82.64	+0.03	5.78
Index Linked Gilt	70.66	75.17	+0.01	1.26
VIRGIN DIRECT PFS LTD 0345 959595				
Income Trust	105.07	105.07	+0.07	8.84
UK Index Tracking @	120.25	120.25	+0.55	2.86
WAVERLEY UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0131 225 1551				
Australasian Gold	25.63	26.97	-0.18	
Pacific Basin	44.32	46.65	-0.46	
Global Bond (US$)	0.9234	0.9618	+0.0016	
Penny Share	43.62	45.91	+0.08	
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TST MGMT LTD 0171 823 2444				
Challenger	102.49	103.20†	...	2.90
Short Dtd Gilt	121.30	122.90	...	
US Govt Bd (US$)	0.7681	0.7782	-0.0002	
Gilt Income	53.04	55.19	-0.02	6.75
Gilt Growth	77.52	80.67	-0.11	
Sterling Bond	50.05	51.50†	-0.01	7.06
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0181 298 4000				
Intl Mgd	52.50	55.84	+0.02	1.83
UK Stockmarket	90.13	95.87	+0.029	2.55

Source: Finstat

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return); † Ex dividend; ‡ Middle price; ... No significant data; # Periodic Charge deducted from capital; @ Exit Charge.

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■ VISUAL ART 1

The first major British show of Nolde's work pays belated homage to a master of Expressionism



■ VISUAL ART 2

You don't have to believe in fairies . . . to enjoy a display of spirited Victoriana

THE TIMES ARTS



■ VISUAL ART 3

A mass-produced look, but all done by hand: Siobhan Hapaska's sculptures go into the ICA



■ TOMORROW

What have they done to Offenbach? Rodney Milnes gives his verdict on ENO's *La Belle Vivette*

Richard Cork applauds the first British retrospective devoted to Emil Nolde; plus fairy art and other exhibitions

Expressions of a restless imagination



In *Evening Landscape, North Friesland*, a watercolour on paper, Nolde displays his usual "complete mastery of the medium". But he was also a master of oils

Although Emil Nolde has long been ranked among the finest German painters of the 20th century, his reputation in Britain remains uncertain. Until recently, this country's traditional dislike of Expressionism counted against him. He was regarded as far too wild and discordant, a barbaric dreamer with an alarming enthusiasm for grotesque subjects. Nolde's affiliation with the Nazi party exacerbated the problem, and to this day the Tate Gallery owns only one of his paintings.

The arrival at the Whitechapel Art Gallery of his first British retrospective exhibition offers an excellent opportunity to make amends. For the truth is that Nolde could be a marvellous artist. I first capitulated to his fiery brilliance as a colourist a quarter of a century ago, at a Marlborough Gallery show of his superb watercolours. Nolde is usually in top form on paper, where he displays complete mastery of his medium. But the Whitechapel survey proves that he was, at best, a formidable manipulator of oil paint as well.

> "He was passionately immersed in the visible world"

Moreover, he often seems close to the concerns of major British artists. Nolde's turbulent and gustily handled seascapes have much in common with Turner, while his brutally impassioned approach to the figure reminds me, at times, of Francis Bacon.

He is an unmistakably Nordic artist, rooted in the bleak marshland area of Schleswig-Holstein, between the Baltic and the North Sea. His first studio was a wooden hut on a beach, remotely positioned on the island of Alsen. The year was 1903, and Nolde was already in his mid-30s.

In view of his later impulsiveness with paint and prolific output, his early reluctance to become a painter may seem strange. He spent several years as a woodcarver and draughtsman in furniture factories, before teaching ornamental drawing at a Museum of Industry and Crafts. Only at the age of 30 did he commit himself to the life of an independent artist, attending a private art college in Munich.

But he soon made up for his hesitancy. Indeed, the rashness of Nolde's work may stem, in part, from a realisation that he had no time to lose. The earliest painting in the show, *Before Sunrise*, proves that even in 1901 he was ready to explore a fantastical world with headlong brushmarks. Dominated by the apparition of an airborne beast, hovering between cliffs and the churning water far below, it is a shadowy picture with little hint of the chromatic fireworks to come.

Nolde's imagination was possessed, at this stage, by mythological apparitions. Solitude would always be vital to him, and throughout his career he longed to escape from the modern world into an elemental realm peopled by sun-worshippers and nocturnal wanderers. At the same time, though, he was alive to the most innovative and fiercely contested developments of his period. When some fledgeling Expressionists formed an insurrectionary group called Die Brücke, they invited Nolde to join them in 1906. Although considerably older than the other members, who included Ernst Ludwig Kirchner and Erich Heckel, he was regarded as one of the most audacious artists in the German avant-garde.

Just how challenging his work could be is demonstrated at the start of the exhibition, on the white wall where *Wildly Dancing Children* hangs. It is an orgiastic work. Nolde's starting-point lay in some sketches he made in 1908, of local children dancing "ring-o'-roses". Their movements were probably innocuous enough, but Nolde injected the whirling figures with a sense of extreme agitation. By the time he painted this hotheaded picture a year later, all his inhibitions had dropped away. The children are transformed into frenzied dervishes, and the violence of their blood-red limbs prompts a distant observer to recoil in alarm.

Nolde's handling of pigment is equally reckless. The marks are applied so freely that they threaten to break the figures up into a blizzard of colour patches, almost detached from any representational role.

The fervency in *Wildly Dancing Children* never left Nolde. He did, however, withdraw from its radical dissolution of form. Despite his appetite for experiment, Nolde never became an abstract artist. He was passionately immersed in the visible world, even though his work constantly attempted to go beyond surface appearances in search of some primordial, underlying reality. Dance provides the exhibition with one of its most rewarding themes, and it enabled him to move further away from contemporary German life. In an ecstatic painting of 1912, two bare-breasted women throw their agile bodies around a cluster of flaring candles. They look demonic enough to be oblivious of burning themselves in the flames, and Nolde's daring decision to juxtapose pink against scarlet heightens their delirium still further.

Nolde loved dancing. He gained enormous stimulus from watching performers in Berlin cabarets, and he also studied Indian dancing during his Gauguin-like journey to the South Seas in 1913-14. There his fascination with the so-called primitive vitality of non-Western cultures was confirmed. As he grew older, though, the figures hurling their limbs across his canvases grew more solid. The *Dancing Girls* of 1925 are bulkier than before. Their mask-like faces, gashed by distended eyes and smeared mouths, may have all the old wildness, but their bodies are modelled in an almost sculptural way, as if Nolde had been looking at late Renoir nudes and Picasso's women at their most massively neo-classical.

Apart from this search for greater monumentality, though, Nolde's art changed astonishingly little. None of the seismic stylistic shifts fracturing Picasso's career disrupts Nolde's remarkable consistency. Just as he favoured medium-size canvases, so he avoided the restless pursuit of different approaches which spurred so many modernists. This refusal to deviate from long-held aims went hand in hand with an enduring love of north Schleswig, where he bought a farmhouse in 1912. Hence his distress when the area became part of Denmark in 1920, its rural antiquity threatened by drastic drainage constructions.

Nolde moved back to Germany, designing the house in Seebull where he lived until his death. His love of nature probably contributed to the lamentable decision, in 1934, to join the local co-operative of the Nazi party. But his motives remain unclear, and he soon found himself branded as a "degénerate" by Hitler's vicious campaign against the avant-garde. After the destruction of a number of his works, he was forbidden in 1941 to paint or sell. Retreating to the isolation of Seebull for the duration of the war, he produced about 1,300 Unpainted Pictures on small, easily hidden fragments of Japan paper.

During those difficult years, when the ageing Nolde was reduced to the status of a criminal, he still managed to retain his former strength as an artist by pulling together all his themes in a grand synthesis. He had, in a sense, been preparing himself for this lonely ordeal for a long time. Many of his earlier landscapes show a house marooned in flat, desolate and hostile surroundings. Its presence is about to be obliterated, either by storm-clouds or the close of day. But Nolde often finds an unexpected magnificence in this moment, when a final rush of light saves the scene from extinction. He was able to emulate the sun's defiance during the years of exile, somehow ensuring that a similar source of energy kept his art alive.

After the war, Nolde lived on for another decade. A moving note of late resolution arrives in 1948, with a luminous painting called *Bright Sea*. Unlike so many of his earlier seascapes, the water here is calm. Purple-black smoke erupts from one side, where a distant vessel moves past. But this angry smudge of pigment cannot, this time, mar the placidity of two white sailing-boats in the centre. They give the entire image a sense of stillness, and the large expanse of sky above them is filled with a soft, pale-yellow radiance. This is painting as benediction, the work of an octogenarian artist finally able to put convulsiveness behind him.

● Emil Nolde *at the Whitechapel Art Gallery, 80 Whitechapel High Street, E1 (0171-522 7878) until Feb 25*

Spritely scenes and a range of elf portraits

Romantic fantasies about fairies were so imprinted during the 19th century — Victoria herself was ironically nicknamed the Faerie Queene — that later even Sir Arthur Conan Doyle was convinced of their existence by a photographic hoax. Now goblins and flower fairies and flying elves are enjoying a revival in Peter Nahum's exhibition, alongside works by Dante Gabriel Rossetti and Sir Edward Coley Burne-Jones.

"High Victorian art has become acceptable again, so people are more relaxed about fairies," says Nahum. "They can admit to more than just liking Arthur Rackham for the sake of the children. And fairies translate well into different cultures."

Fifteen years ago Nahum was chiefly responsible for the re-evaluation of the mad fairy artist Richard Dadd, whose oil painting of an argument between Oberon and Titania more than doubled the auction record for any Victorian picture at £500,000 and was then resold for three times as much. Since then, a fairy museum has been opened to more acclaim in Japan, and a fairy picture show is planned for America and Scotland.

This exhibition, *A Century of Master Drawings, Watercolours and Works in Egg Tempera* includes *Flight by Night of Bats and Elves* by Dicky Doyle, a painting which in 1885 changed hands for the then large sum of £42. Doyle was among the best fairy painters because, as in this elfin escapade, he didn't take his subject too seriously. He was on the staff of *Punch* for years, but fell out with the magazine and turned to fairy illustration, populating some pictures with hundreds of fairies at a time.



A watercolour of fairies playing, by Lady Murray

Fairies were first popularised by Sir Joshua Reynolds and Henry Fuseli at the instigation of London print dealer, John Boydell, in 1787. Boydell commissioned them to paint scenes from Shakespeare's plays from which he could then sell prints. Both artists were inspired by *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; the pictures that resulted, and the prints, were a huge success.

Goblins, one of Laurence Housman's rare pen-and-ink illustrations for Christina Rossetti's *Goblin Market*, is a striking example of how this 1890s book designer and illustrator with a self-professed "freakish imagination" outdid his famous Pre-Raphaelite rival, Christina's brother. Dante Gabriel Rossetti had previously illustrated Christina's poem, but Housman's interpretation was hailed as the masterpiece.

Among the female fairy artists is Jessie Marion King. She exhibited with other Glasgow artists in Vienna at the beginning of this century and influenced Secessionists such as Gustav Klimt. Her depiction of Hallowe'en in pen and ink and gold paint has the airy and exotic quality that has made her one of the most sought-after fairy artists to date.

Jane Oswald, Lady Murray, better known as Emily, was, on the other hand, born to be a fairy painter. She grew up on the Isle of Man, otherwise called the Fairy Isle, and her birthplace was Port-e-Chee, which in Manx Gaelic means Fairy Music. Her paintings are exquisite, those exhibited probably once part of a keepsake album dating from the 1820s. Like Beatrix Potter, she was prolific until she married and moved to Scotland, never to pick up a brush again. But her pictures have increased in popularity since the Manx Museum featured her work in a major show eleven years ago.

ALISON BECKETT

● A century of Master Drawings: *Peter Nahum at The Leicester Galleries, 5, Ryder Street, London SW1 (tel: 0171-930 6059). Until December 22*

AROUND THE GALLERIES: RECOMMENDED EXHIBITIONS IN LONDON AND AMSTERDAM

Although there are now several commercial galleries around the West End exhibiting first-rate art from the Far East, we have relatively few opportunities to see Indian artworks of comparable quality. This is no doubt part of the point in staging a show like *Sculpture from a Sacred Realm*, currently at Rossi & Rossi. One thing that these 24 sculptures, ranging in date from the 2nd century BC to the 3rd century AD, vividly demonstrate is the essential unity of classic Indian art, whichever of the three main religions immediately inspired it. The same sculpture workshops toiled quite happily, it appears, for Hindus, Buddhists and Jains, and it is often impossible for the untutored eye to work out to which group any particular piece belongs.
Rossi & Rossi, 91c Jermyn Street, SW1 (0171-321 0208), until December 22

☐ Many artists beside Toulouse-Lautrec in late 19th-century Paris dabbled in poster art and illustration for popular magazines of the period. There is often confusion about how exactly these works were produced or reproduced: Stoppenbach and Delestre's current show of Steinlen's drawings for Gil Blas should help to dispel it. As reproduced in the magazine, the drawings are described as lithographs. Here the gallery has assembled 20 of the original drawings in coloured chalks and ink, subjects usually humorous or satirical, brightly evocative of high life and low. These are juxtaposed with the magazine versions, so that one can see just how flattened and simplified the details of draughtsmanship and colour treatment become in the process of reproduction.
Stoppenbach and Delestre, 25 Cork Street, W1 (0171-734 3534) until Saturday

☐ Even when making recognisable vases and beakers and bowls, Elizabeth Raeburn has always been one of the most painterly of potters. The effect is emphasised in her latest exhibition at the Galerie Besson, which does include some variations on the traditional shapes for pots, but is really dominated by what are called, rather misleadingly, tiles. The reason they are called tiles seems to be that she has been inspired to go in this direction by a commission she recently executed for a ceramic mural in a Taunton hospital, but the pieces in the present show are much more in the nature of pictorial plaques, small paintings of, usually, rather romantic and desolate landscapes, sometimes in monochrome but more often in rich and subdued (though once or twice flaring) colour. The shapes are irregular, and sometimes boldly curving or corrugated; the effect is bold, original, and totally alluring.
Galerie Besson, 15 Royal Arcade, 28 Old Bond Street, W1 (0171-491 1706) until Dec 20

☐ At present there is apparently a Diaghilev festival on in London, though until the major exhibition opens at the Barbican in January one could be forgiven for being unaware of it. However, the Fine Art Society is offering, before Christmas, a delicious *bonne bouche* in the shape of a dazzling show of designs by Bakst and his fellows. *Bakst and the Ballets Russes*. Its immediate occasion is the publication of a sumptuous new, revised and updated edition of Charles Spencer's classic book of the same title (Academy Editions, £39.50), first published in 1973.
Fine Arts Society, 146 New Bond Street, W1 (0171-629 5116) until Friday

JOHN RUSSELL TAYLOR

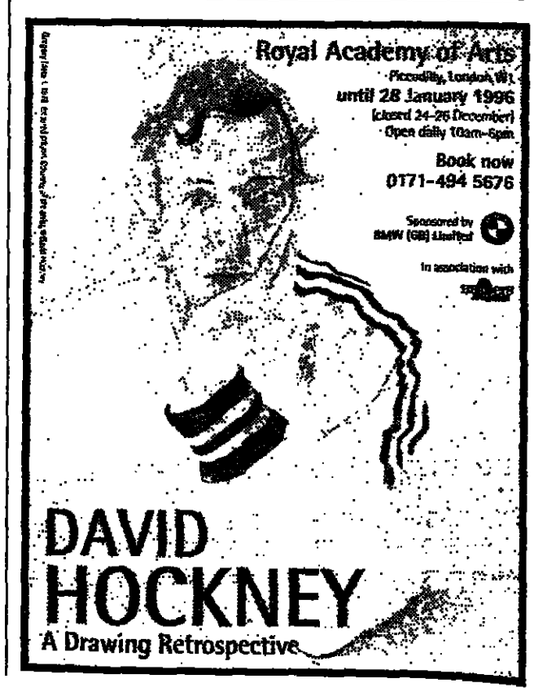
It is good to see the ICA place such faith in a relatively untried body of new work. **Siobhan Hapaska** has had to work very hard to get her sculptures finished in time for this one-person show in the main downstairs gallery. Despite the super-streamlined appearance, the sculptures were exceedingly labour intensive to produce. It is always difficult to create a mass-produced appearance by hand, and yet these works do look untouched.

There are four pieces in all. Each is quite different in function and effect. There is a futuristically smooth mock vehicle, a wall piece which emits sound, a model of a guru or saint, and a free-standing abstract shape. The room is lit gently with a hint of blue, and the sound of lapping water and a fog horn far out at sea comes in mono from the skewed heart-shaped piece on the wall, colouring the atmosphere of the whole installation. The sound is used to create a sense of wonder and disjointedness. Hapaska talks of nights spent listening, as a child, to the constant sound of a motorway near her home in a village just outside Belfast, and of wanting to recreate the ambiguous sense of comfort and longing that comes with the sound of unkown people on the move.
Institute of Contemporary Arts, The Mall, London SW1 (0171-930 3647) to February 18

☐ The Stedelijk Museum Bureau is Amsterdam's modern art museum's new off-site experimental art space. Four sculptors — **Urs Fischer, Ronnie Nienhuis, Antonietta Peeters and Avery Preesman** — must have worked very closely together on *Calypso*, the current show there. Layers of very distinct material have been interwoven to create a mass that fills the space with deliberate formlessness. A wooden log with beads embedded is suspended from the ceiling; a rug is sliced in half; sections of cheap building board, coloured with paint, are wedged in between other materials. Cast breeze blocks in uniform white march across the floor. The exhibition appears to be the result of tough conversation and territorial negotiation between four individually successful artists.
Stedelijk Museum Bureau, Rozenstreet 59, Amsterdam (00 31 20 422 0471), to December 31

☐ In the main space at Galerie Paul Andriesse are four paintings by the Slovenian artist Mitja Tusek. Each surface is covered by layers of wax which create an intense prismatic effect. This veneer traps an apparently simple composition. Browns and greys mixed with a good deal of yellow appear to describe something half-remembered. Two flat sections of colour meet in a blur: a horizon, or the earth spied from far away. In the back gallery downstairs a further three paintings describe a natural cul de sac, the corner of a forest or overgrown garden, where a dense screen of trees rises up and across the surface.
Galerie Paul Andriesse Prinsengracht 116 NL 1015 Amsterdam (00 31 20 623 62 37) until January 17

SACHA CRADDOCK





■ CHOICE 1

Patti Boulaye plays Bloody Mary in a new staging of *South Pacific*

VENUE: Opens tonight at the Drill Hall



■ CHOICE 2

. . . while Sinead Cusack stars in an adaptation of Dumas' *Tower*

VENUE: Opens tonight at the Almeida Theatre

THE TIMES ARTS



■ CHOICE 3

The Orchestra of the Age of *Enlightenment* plays Handel pops

VENUE: Tonight at St George's, Bristol



■ VISUAL ART

Prepare for a feast of sculpture, drawing and painting in the North of England

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

SOUTH PACIFIC *Opening night for* Patti Boulaye as Bloody Mary and Peter Polycarpou as Emile in Phil Willmott's production of the Rodgers and Hammerstein tropical evergreen
Drill Hall, Chenies Street, WC1 (0171-637 8270). Tonight, 7.30pm. Then Tue-Sat, and Jan 7 and 14, 7.30pm

THE TOWER Opening night too for Alexandre Dumas' romantic melodrama, with Sinead Cusack as a scheming Queen Marguerite and Adrian Dunbar as the agent of her downfall. Howard Davies directs a version by Charles Wood.
Almeida, Almeida Street, N1 (0171-359 4404). Tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm

RUSSIAN NIGHT Yevgeny Svetlanov and the Philharmonia Orchestra continue their *Scheherazade* series with a performance of Rimsky-Korsakov's much-loved work, plus pieces from Borodin and Prokofiev
Festival Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-960 4242). Tonight, 7.30pm

ELSEWHERE

BRISTOL The **Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment** perform the last in its acclaimed *Live Baroque* series tonight. Andrew Parrot conducts an all-Handel programme, featuring the *Chandos* and *Coronation Anthems* and *Music for the Royal Fireworks*.
St George's, Brandon Hill (0117-923 0359). Tonight, 7.30pm. Live BBC 3.

LIVERPOOL Yuri Temirkanov conducts the **Royal Philharmonic Orchestra** for this week's Royal Orchestra Exchange whistle-stop tour. Pianist John Lill joins in for a programme of Wagner, Schumann and Dvořák
Philharmonic Hall, Hope Street (0151-709 3789). Tonight, 7.30pm. Wed, **Birmingham**, Symphony Hall (0121-212 3333). Thurs, **London**, Barbican (0171-638 8891). Fri, **Glasgow**, Royal Concert Hall (0141-227 5511)

PORTSMOUTH *A few tickets still remain for the first* **Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra** ho-ho-ho concert of the season. Tonight's festivities are narrated by Richard Baker, and Thursday's by Henry Kelly. Ron Goodwin conducts tomorrow
Guildhall (01705 824355). Wed, **Southampton**, Northguild (01703 632601); Thurs, **Bristol** Colston Hall (0117 9223682). All at 7.30pm

SHEFFIELD **Northern Ballet Theatre** moves towards its holiday break with a very appropriate *Christmas Carol*. A dazzling production with an original score by Carl Davis and highly ingenious sets and costumes by Lez Brotherston. Can next be seen in Edinburgh (Festival Theatre) on Jan 3
Lyceum, Norfolk Street (0114-276 9922). *Tonight-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 3pm*

LONDON GALLERIES

Hayward: Art and Power: Europe under the dictators 1930-1945 (071-928 3144) . . . **National Gallery**: Paintings from National Trust Houses (0171-747 2885) . . . **National Portrait Gallery**: Richard and Maria Cosway (0171-306 0055) . . . **Royal Academy**: David Hockney Drawing Retrospective (0171-439 7438) . . . **Serpentine**: William Turnbull: sculpture and paintings (0171-723 9072) . . . **Tate**: *Paintings in Tudor and Jacobean England* (0171-887 8000) . . . **V & A**: Jain Art from India (0171-938 8500) . . . **Whitechapel**: Emil Nolde (0171-522 7888)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◪ Some seats available
□ Seats at all prices

□ **ACCORDING TO HOYLE** The tensions of today threaten a group of friends who have played poker together for 18 years. New play commissioned from William Gaminara. Robin Lefevre directs
Hampstead, Swiss Cottage Centre, NW3 (0171-722 9301). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mat Sat, 4pm

◪ **A CHRISTMAS CAROL**: Revival of Ian Judge's popular but over-sweet production. Clive Francis plays Scrooge
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Mon-Sat, 7.15pm, mats Thurs and Sat, and Dec 19 and Jan 2, 2pm. Until Jan 13

□ **DEAD FUNNY**: Belinda Lang, Kevin McNally and Sam Kelly in Terry Johnson's sharply funny play about comics and some of their fans
Savoy, The Strand, WC2 (0171-836 8888). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat, 8.15pm, mats Wed, 2.30pm and Sat, 5pm

◪ **DINNER WITH THE BORGIAS** High jinks and dirty deeds in Renaissance Italy. Written by Roy Smiles whose *Court Jester* last year was good fun, directed by Ted Craig
Warehouse, Dingwall Road, East Croydon (0181-680 4060). Opens tonight, 6.30pm. Then Tue, 6.30pm. Wed-Sat, 8pm, Sun, 5pm. Until Jan 28

□ **THE GLASS MENAGERIE**: Welcome transfer from the Donmar for Sam Mendes's radiant production. Zoe Wanamaker and Claire Skinner continue as mother and daughter, Ben Walden comes in as the new Tom
Comedy, Panton Street, SW1 (0171-369 1731). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Sat, plus Dec 28 and Jan 4, 3pm

◪ **HANSEL AND GRETEL**: Red Shift and Pop Up create a new version of the story, set in present day Kiev. Kiev in 1946, and the Worm Wood of fairy tales and gingerbread houses.
Lyric, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 (0181-741 2311). Today, 10am, 1.30pm

□ **HOBSON'S CHOICE** Frank Thornton assumes the title role of Harold Brighouse's warm-hearted comedy. Nichola McAuliffe and Graham Turner excellent as daughter and son-in-law
Lyric, Shaftesbury Ave, W1 (0171-494 5045). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; Sat, 3pm

◪ **AN INSPECTOR CALLS** Stephen Daldry's powerful production, with Nicholas Woodeson as the all-knowing Inspector, and Edward Peel and Susan Engel as the pillars of society
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085). Mon-Fri, 7.45pm, Sat, 8.15pm; mats Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 5pm

◪ **ROSENCRANTZ AND GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD**: Adrian Scarborough and Simon Russell Beale play Stoppard's attendant lords in Matthew Francis's directorial debut here
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Now previewing, 7.30pm. Opens Thurs, 7pm

□ **TRAINSPOTTING**: Irving Walsh's blackest of black comedies, set on the wild side of Edinburgh: drugs, danger and vomit. Limited London season after record-breaking tour
Ambassadors, West Street, WC2 (0171-836 6111). Now previewing, 8pm; mat Wed, 5pm. Opens Dec 15, 7pm; until Jan 27

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre. **We recommend you confirm availability during the holiday season.**

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

◆ **THE AMERICAN PRESIDENT** (15) What happens when the widowed President gets a girlfriend? Not much, even with Michael Douglas and Annette Bening. Director, Rob Reiner
Empire (0171-437 1234) **MGM Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332)

ANGELS AND INSECTS (18) Procreative games in Victorian England. Handsome but stiff drama, with Mark Rylance, Patsy Kensit and Kristin Scott Thomas. Director, Philip Haas
Curzon Mayfair (0171-369 1720) **MGM Fulham** (0171-370 2636) **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098)

THE BROTHERS McMULLEN (15) Irish-Americans agonise over love, commitment and beer. Modest feature debut by writer-director-actor Edward Burns
Gate (0171-727 4043) **Lumière** (0171-836 0691) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520)

DR. JEKYLL AND MS. HYDE (12) Brash and unfunny comic update of Stevenson's story, with Tim Daly and Sean Young. Director, David Price
MGM Haymarket (0171-839 1527) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

UNSTRUNG HEROES (PG) Diane Keaton directs this eccentric heart-warmer about a boy's charmed life with crazy relatives. With Nathan Witt, Andie MacDowell, John Turturro
MGM Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Hill** (0171-435 3366)

CURRENT

ELISA (15) Overwrought French tale of a tearaway kid who seeks out her father. With Vanessa Paradis, Gérard Depardieu. Director, Jean Becker
MGMs: Piccadilly (0171-437 3561) **Swiss Centre** (0171-439 4470)

◆ **GOLDENEYE** (12) Pierce Brosnan twinkles as the new James Bond. A rip-roaring thriller with a sense of humour, with Sean Bean
Barbican (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **MGMs: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Leicester Square** (01426 915683) **Marble Arch** (01426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332)

IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER (15). Actors struggle to mount *Hamlet*. Over-manic comedy from Kenneth Branagh, with Michael Maloney, Joan Collins.
Barbican (0171-638 8891) **MGMs: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Haymarket** (01426 915353) **Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Phoenix** (0181-883 2233) **Richmond** (0181-332 0030) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121)

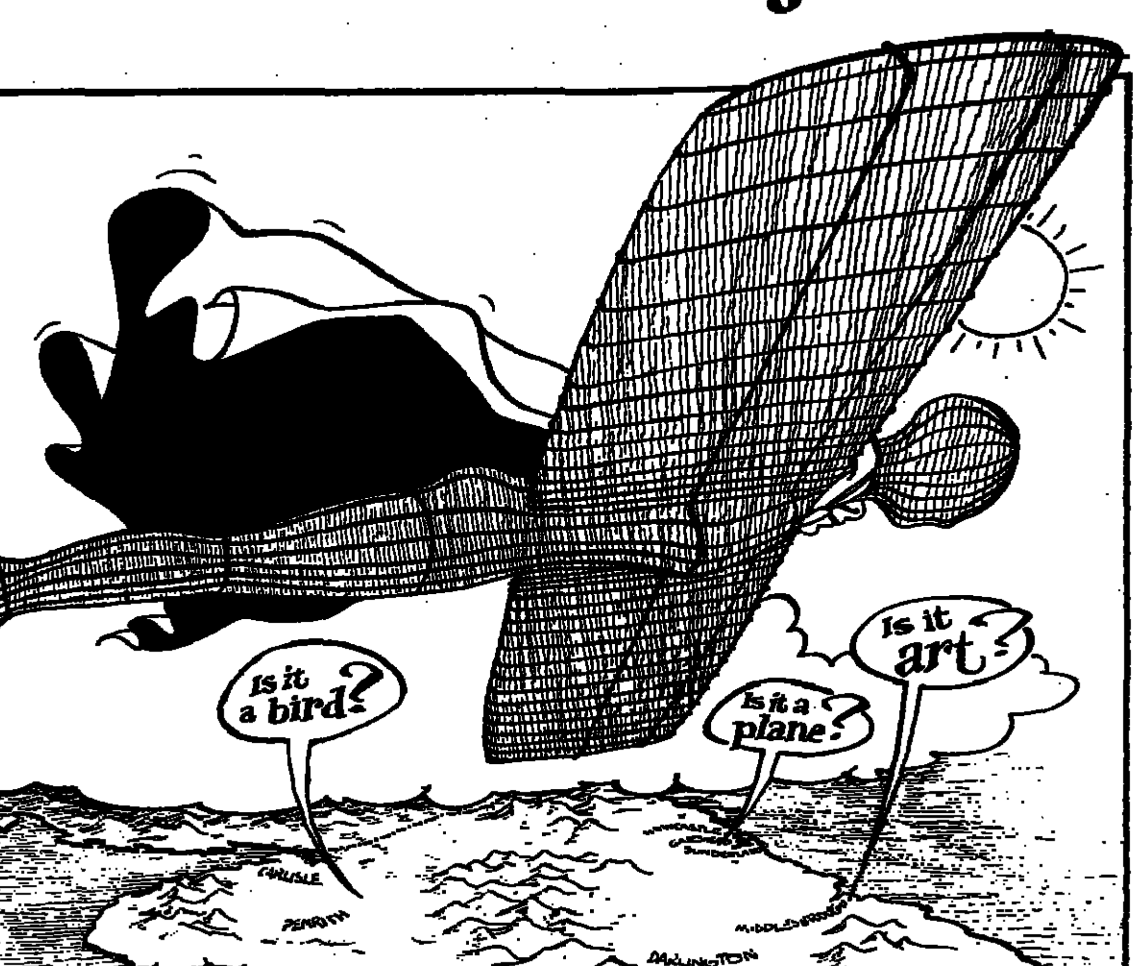
◆ **MURDER IN THE FIRST** (15) Flashy but absorbing Alcatraz drama, with Kevin Bacon, Christian Slater and Gary Oldman. Director, Marc Rocco
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **MGMs: Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE SANTA CLAUSE** (U) Divorced dad becomes the new Santa. Broad family comedy with a human face, featuring Tim Allen
MGM Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332)

Hills of the north rejoice

Charles Hall

reports that Visual Arts UK is set to bring a wealth of new commissions to the North of England



A member of staff at the Tate once told me that the Tate Liverpool was "for people who can't get to London". The thought that people might not necessarily *want* to travel to London to see their national collection seemed never to have occurred to him. I thought it kindest not to bring the idea up that one might even travel the other way . . .

The cultural relationship between London and "the regions" is fraught with political complexities, but they are particularly intractable in the world of the visual arts. London is the only city with a large enough economy to sustain a substantial commercial gallery circuit and this, taken together with the clustering of national collections, major temporary exhibition spaces and art colleges, means that anyone with ambitions to know the art world thoroughly, or to make their name in it, finds it almost impossible to escape the city's gravitational pull. As a result, artists in the regions are lucky even to be patronised; they are more likely simply to be ignored.

Next year marks the latest and most ambitious attempt to break or at least loosen this metropolitan stranglehold. The Arts Council has decided to site Visual Arts UK, its celebration of the Year of Visual Arts, not in the South East, not even in Glasgow (which has responded by planning its own, unofficial festival), but in the North of England. "Ambitious" is, of course, one of those stock words which gets rolled out for festival programmes, but on this occasion it does seem appropriate.

The most eye-catching initiatives are not sweeping art historical surveys or controversial solo shows, but a series of monuments commissioned from internationally respected sculptors. Public art does not need a gallery. Andy Goldsworthy, for example, has been commissioned to create 100 sculptures in the Cumbrian landscape. And local farmers are queueing up to have them sited on their land — hardly the conventional public response to major new works by fashionable contemporary artists.

But then, Goldsworthy's latest work is inspired by, and closely resembles, traditional dry-stone constructions: Cumbrian farmers may or may not know much about art, but they do know a free, fully functional sheepfold when they see one. As one of the organisers put it: "People who don't like it never have to see it, or may not even recognise it as art when they do see it."

That tact is a recurrent theme. James Turrell's *Skyspace*, set on an exposed hilltop, is designed as a place for the contemplation of the sky, but is also intended as a shelter for walkers stranded in bad weather. Many of the other commissions similarly aspire to the status of landmark: Richard Wentworth's 24 pieces for Teesdale District Council will mark the parish boundaries along the Teesdale Way, while many other works (from benches to Tony Cragg's *Terris Novalis*) will be integrated into the new cross-country C2C cycle route.

This tact (or diffidence) is in part explained by the hostility encountered by the most assertive and visible of the festival's projects, Antony Gormley's huge *Angel of the North*, a winged figure (with a wing span of 169 ft) that will tower over the junction of the A1 and the A167 at Gateshead. Martin Callanan, the lone Conservative on the local council, hates it so much that he has demanded that the council's calendar, which features a photograph of the Angel, be ceremonially burnt. Virginia Bottomley, posing in front of Gormley's maquette at the festival's regional launch in Newcastle, found herself fending off questions from the local press about "a spectacular waste of money, far removed from the lives of ordinary people".

The most obvious answer to that is, as Bottomley put it, "what you think after five minutes or five hours doesn't matter; it's what you think after five years or 50 years. Often the great art of the past was reviled at the time."

She might have added that a good deal of the programme is explicitly aimed at "ordinary people": there is even an exhibition of comic art, from Andy Capp to *Viz*, timed to coincide with the European Championship football matches in Newcastle. The real hope must be, though, that instinctive suspicion should be replaced by something more significant than the kind of affection which comes with familiarity. Local people's hostility to the scheme seems to be rooted in the old cliché that the North is for fog, whippets and ram raiding, while the South is full of softies going to the opera and sucking up to Damien Hirst. What's needed to counter that is the opportunity to see new art (or even old art) on a regular, even a casual basis. That being so, the self-effacement of some of the "public" sculpture could be seen to be a miscalculation.

But in fact the festival has already helped to create the conditions of change. There will be good gallery shows in established galleries in the region: Abbott Hall in Kendal has attracted a collection of new paintings by Lucian Freud, and the Arts Council, Crafts Council, Tate Gallery and Contemporary Art Society will be exhibiting their recent acquisitions in the region in March.

But more important, in the long term, is the associated creation of good new galleries. The conversion of the Baltic Flour Mills in Newcastle, for example, will create the largest contemporary exhibition space in the country; the two extensions for the Laing Gallery will convert one of the dowdiest and most depressing spaces in the country into one of the airiest. In fact, Visual Arts UK, which has a budget of less than £4 million, is reckoned to have sparked off capital investment worth around £60 million.

The whole initiative is, inevitably, being presented largely in terms of its associated economic benefits: the Newcastle launch was mainly given over to awards to various businesses involved in arts sponsorship, and Bottomley's speech centred on the economic benefits of the arts. The organisers say they hope to attract 300,000 visitors and create 100 jobs. But the real measure of Visual Arts UK will not be its ability to attract visitors from outside, but to raise the quality of life on the ground.

ENTERTAINMENTS

ART GALLERIES

A MAJOR EXHIBITION of Russian & soviet art at the Roy Miles Gallery 29 Bruton Street, W1. 0171-495 4747

ROY MILES GALLERY. New works by SERGEI CHEPIK now on view. 29 Bruton Street, W1

THE SMALL PAINTINGS GROUP until 22 Dec. Duncan Campbell, 15 Thackeray St. W8 0171 937 8665 Mo-Fri 11-6, Sat 10-5

OPERA & BALLET

COLISEUM 0171 632 8300 (24hr) ENGLISH NATIONAL OPERA Ton't 7.30 TURANDOT Tomor 7.30 LA BELLE VIVETTE

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE 0171 304 4000 for Box Off & Standby info. Tickets available on the day. The Royal Opera Ton't, Sat 7.30 AIDA Tomor 7.30 (Last Night) TOSCA The Royal Ballet Thur 7.30 (Last Night) Balanchine's APOLLO/MacMillan's SIDE SHOW/Balanchine's DUO CONCERTANT/Page's FEARFUL SYMMETRIES Fri, Mon 7.30 TWYLA THARP ROSSINI BALLET

ROYAL FESTIVAL HALL 071 960 4242 ENGLISH NATIONAL BALLET THE NUTCRACKER 19 December-6 January SWAN LAKE 8-13 January

THEATRES

ADELPHI "ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S MASTERPIECE" Wall St Journal SUNSET BOULEVARD Winner of 7 Tony Awards including BEST MUSICAL Starring ELAINE PAIGE 24HR CREDIT CARD BOOKINGS CALL 0171 344 0055 (bkg fee) GRP BOOKING 413 3302 (bkg fee) No booking fee for Adelphi Box Office Callers Recorded information 0171 379 8884 Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Thur & Sat 3.00

ALBERY BO 0171 369 1730 cc 0171 344 4444 (no bkg fee) Grp 0171 413 3311 "FIVE STAR SHOW —IRRESISTIBLE" D.Exp FIVE GUYS NAMED MOE SIXTH STOMPING YEAR Mon-Thu 8pm Fri & Sat 6 & 8.45 LAST 5 WEEKS Fri & Sat 6pm perf: Top 4 prices 2 for 1

ALDWYCH cc 0171 416 6003 0171 420 0000 (no fee) Evgs 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3.0 NIAMH CUSACK MARGARET TYZACK PAUL BHATTACHARJEE INDIAN INK "TOM STOPPARD'S TRIUMPH - A BEAUTIFUL AND FUNNY FIREBALL OF A PLAY TO ILLUMINATE THE WEST END" Today. Directed by PETER WOOD LAST 4 WEEKS ENDS JAN 6

AMBASSADORS 836 6111/420 0100/344 4444 For 7 weeks only TRAINSPOTTING Award-winning play from Irvine Welsh's novel "Feverishy Funny" Guardian Mon-Fri at 8 Sat 5 & 8.30 Wed Mat at 5 Press Night this Fri 7.00pm

APOLLO VICTORIA cc 0171 416 6055 cc 24hrs 0171 344 4444/0171 420 0000 Grps 0171 416 6075/ 413 3321 Andrew Lloyd Webber's New production of STARLIGHT EXPRESS "A REBORN THEATRICAL DELIGHT" Daily Mail White knuckle runs 19.45 daily Tue & Sat 15.00 Tickets from £12.50

APOLLO 494 5069/344 4444/420 0000. Eves 8, Mats Thu 3, 5 & 8.15 HAYLEY MILLS "Magnificent" F.T JENNY SEAGROVE "Impeccable" Times DEAD GUILTY "Richard Harris' new play is THE PERFECT THRILLER" S.Times

BLOOMSBURY THEATRE B/O C.C 0171 388 8822 From Dec 18 Mon-Fri 11.30 & 3.00 W/C Dec 25 Tue-Sat 11.30 & 3.00 SOOTY AT CHRISTMAS

CAMBRIDGE BO & cc 0171 494 5054 cc (no bkg fee) 312 1992/ 344 4444 Grps 413 3321/ 312 1970/ 494 5454 FAME THE MUSICAL "FAME IS A FEEL-GOOD TRIUMPH" Mail On Sunday "BREATHTAKING" Independent Eves 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3.00 Extra Mat Thur 28 Dec at 3pm No Performance Mon 25 Dec

CHICHESTER FESTIVAL 12 - 16 Dec A PASSIONATE WOMAN The Smash Hit Comedy Direct from London's West End BOOK ON 01243 781312

COMEDY BO & cc 0171 369 1731 cc 0171 420 0000 (no bkg fee) ZOE WANAMAKER in THE GLASS MENAGERIE by TENNESSEE WILLIAMS Directed by Sam Mendes Eves 7.30 Mats Sat 3.00 LIMITED SEASON Extra Mats 28 Dec & 4 Jan at 3pm No Perfs 25, 26 Dec & 1 Jan

CRITERION 369 1747/420 0000/ 344 4444 JONATHAN HARVEY'S NEW COMEDY HIT RUPERT STREET LONELY HEARTS CLUB "wickedly funny...brilliantly comic" D.Mail Tues-Sat 8, Sat 4, Sun 3 & 7 NB Two Sunday perfs!! OPENS TOMOR

DOMINION Ticketlines 0171 416 6060/ 0171 420 0000 (bkg fee). Grps 0171 416 6075/413 3321/420 0200 GREASE Starring SHANE RICHIE and SAMANTHA JANUS "Fast, furious & fun, fun, fun." Daily Mirror Eves 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3pm TICKETS AVAILABLE - APPLY DAILY TO BOX OFFICE Extra Mat 26 Dec 3pm

DRURY LANE THEATRE ROYAL SS cc (Bkg fee) 24hr 7 days 0171 494 5000/344 4444/420 0000 Grps 494 5454/413 3311/312 8000 MISS SAIGON "THE CLASSIC LOVE STORY OF OUR TIME" NOW IN ITS 7TH SENSATIONAL YEAR! Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3pm Extra Mat Thur 28 Dec at 3pm No performance Mon 25 Dec Good seats avail for Wed Mat & some perfs - apply B.O. FOR TELEPHONE/POSTAL BOOKINGS & PERSONAL CALLERS 0171 494 5060 (BKG FEE)

DUCHESS cc 0171 494 5070 cc 344 4444 (no bkg fee)/836 2428 (bkg fee) 0171-413 3321 Eves 8pm, Wed mat 3pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30 "A SAUCY COMEDY" E. Std NOW IN ITS 5th YEAR DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER "Gloriously Outrageous" T.Out

DUKE OF YORK'S 0171 836 5122/8837 cc 420 0000/344 4444 (24 hrs, no fee) ROYAL COURT CLASSICS Henry Goodman, Aisling O'Sullivan, Fred Pearson, Tim Potter HYSTERIA Terry Johnson's "custard pie of comic brilliance" Time Out BEST COMEDY OLIVIER AWARD FOR 7 WEEKS ONLY Eves 7.30, Mats Thu & Sat 3pm

FORTUNE BO & CC 0171 836 2238/0171 312 8033 DAVID BURKE ANDREW HAVILL Susan Hill's THE WOMAN IN BLACK Adapted by Stephen Mallatratt "A real thrill of horror" S.Times NOW IN ITS 7TH YEAR Mon-Sat 8pm Mats Tues 3pm Sat 4pm

FORTUNE 0171 836 2238 From 13 Dec, A Magical Xmas Show THE ENCHANTED TOYSHOP "A real treat for 3-8 year olds" Gdn

GARRICK 0171 494 5085/ 0171 312 1990 (no bkg fee) WINNER OF 19 MAJOR AWARDS The Royal National Theatre production JB Priestley's AN INSPECTOR CALLS "THRILLING...MUST BE SEEN" D.Mail "ONE OF THE MOST INTOXICATING, THEATRICALLY IMAGINATIVE EXPERIENCES OF THE 1990s" E.S "TWO HOURS OF ENTHRALLING, VISUALLY STUNNING DRAMA" D.Tel FINAL LONDON SEASON Mon-Fri 7.45, Sat 5.00 & 8.15, Wed mat 2.30

GIELGUD Shaftesbury Ave inc cc 0171 494 5530 (no bkg fee) cc 0171 344 4444 (no bkg fee) Groups 0171 494 5454 JULIA McKENZIE COMMUNICATING DOORS by ALAN AYCKBOURN "A MELODRAMATIC COMEDY THRILLER WONDERFULLY FUNNY AND GENUINELY SCARY" D.Tel "with the audience in turn ROARING WITH LAUGHTER AND LEAPING FORWARD IN FRIGHT" Independent Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00 No Performance Mon 25 Dec

HAYMARKET 930 8800 cc 344 4444/420 0000 (bkg fee) THE PETER HALL COMPANY ALAN BATES GEMMA JONES 'superb' Times 'marvellous' Gdn THE MASTER BUILDER "Peter Hall's fine new staging" D.Tel "Not to be missed on any account" S.Tms FOR 4 WEEKS ONLY Mon-Sat 7.45, Mats Wed, Sat 3pm

HER MAJESTY'S 24hr 494 5400 (bkg fee) CC 344 4444/420 0000 (bkg fee) Grps 494 5454/413 3311/930 6123 ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S AWARD WINNING MUSICAL THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Directed by HAROLD PRINCE NOW BKG TO 28 SEPT 96 Eves 7.45 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00. Apply to Box Office daily for returns Extra Mat Thu 28 Dec at 3.00 No perf Mon 25 Dec

LONDON PALLADIUM BO/CC 0171 494 5020/344 4444 (£1 tkt serv chg) 420 0000 Grps 0171 413 3321 JIM DALE RETURNS TO THE WEST END "A MAJOR THEATRICAL EVENT" Daily Mail OLIVER! 2ND SPECTACULAR YEAR "LIONEL BART'S MASTERPIECE YOU CAN'T ASK FOR MORE" S.Times Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30 Extra Mat Thur 28 Dec at 2.30 No Performance Mon 25 Dec SOME GOOD SEATS AVAIL NOW FOR WEEKDAY PERFS

LYRIC Shafts Ave BO/cc 0171 494 5045 cc 0171 344 4444 (no bkg fee) Nichola McAuliffe Graham Turner and Frank Thornton HOBSON'S CHOICE by Harold Brighouse "MAGNIFICENT...an evening that brims with laughter" D.Tel "Frank Hauser's deliciously piquant revival is A DELIGHT" Std Eves 7.30 Mats Thurs & Sat 3.00 No Performance Mon 25 Dec EXTENDED TO 3 FEB

NATIONAL THEATRE BO 0171 928 2252: Grps 0171 620 0741; 24hr cc bkg fee 0171 420 0000 OLIVIER Ton't 7.15 MOTHER COURAGE & HER CHILDREN Bertolt Brecht in a new version by David Hare. Tomor 7.15 A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC Music & lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, book by Hugh Wheeler LYTTLETON Ton't, Tomor, (PREVIEWS) 7.30 ROSENCRANTZ & GUILDENSTERN ARE DEAD Tom Stoppard COTTESLOE Ton't, Tomor 7.00 CYRANO Edmond Rostand, adapted by Jatinder Verma, rendered into verse by Ranjit Bolt

NEW LONDON Drury Lane WC2 BO 0171 405 0072 CC 0171 404 4079 24hr 0171 344 4444/420 0000 Grps 0171 413 3311/930 6123 THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER/ T.S. ELIOT INTERNATIONAL AWARD-WINNING MUSICAL CATS Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.00 Extra Mats 27, 28 Dec at 3pm No Mat 26 Dec No Performance Mon 25 Dec LATECOMERS NOT ADMITTED WHILE AUDITORIUM IS IN MOTION, PLEASE BE PROMPT. Bars open at 6.45 LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE.

OLD VIC 0171 928 6655/312 8034 The Royal National Theatre's THE WIND IN THE WILLOWS "AN ABSOLUTE WINNER" Time Out MATCHLESS PERFORMANCES... UTTERLY ENCHANTING...A SMALL MASTERPIECE" Daily Mail "A WONDERFUL EVENING" F.T "AN IRRESISTIBLE PIECE OF THEATRE" LNR Some Good Seats Still Available Before Christmas Mon-Sat 7.30pm, Wed & Sat mats 2.30pm

PALACE THEATRE 0171-434 0909 cc 24hrs (bkg fee) 0171-344 4444 Grps 0171 413 3311 THE WORLD'S MOST POPULAR MUSICAL LES MISERABLES NOW IN ITS 11TH RECORD-BREAKING YEAR Eves 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30 Extra Mat Wed 27 Dec at 2.30 No Performance Mon 25 Dec Latecomers not admitted until the interval LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE

PHOENIX BO/CC 0171 369 1733 /344 4444/420 0000 (fee) BEST MUSICAL ALL 4 MAJOR AWARDS DAVID CASSIDY STARS FOR 4 WEEKS ONLY IN WILLY RUSSELL'S BLOOD BROTHERS STEPHANIE LAWRENCE CARL WAYNE "Brings the audience to its feet, and roaring its approval" D Mail Eves 7.45 Mats Thurs 3 Sat 4 EXTRA MAT 27 DEC AT 3

PICCADILLY 0171 369 1734 cc 24hrs 344 4444, Grps 312 1970/413 3321 "WINNER!" BEST MUSICAL Evening Standard Award '95 "ONE OF THE BEST MUSICAL PRODUCTIONS LONDON HAS SEEN FOR YEARS" D.Express "JERRY HERMAN'S WONDERFUL BURST OF MUSICAL FIREWORKS" D.Mail MACK & MABEL THE HOLLYWOOD ROMANCE Mon-Sat at 7.45, Mats Wed & Sat at 3.00

PLAYHOUSE 0171 839 4401 /0171 420 0000/0171 344 4444 AN ALL STAR CAST IN RAY COONEY'S NEW COMEDY HIT FUNNY MONEY "LAUGHS GALORE...A WINNER" D. Exp "Better than Feydeau...priceless" D. Tel Mon-Sat 8.00, Mats Thu 3.00, Sat 5.00 THEATRE RESTAURANT 0171 930 9445 EXTRA MAT 27 DEC AT 3

PRINCE EDWARD 0171 734 8951 cc (24hr no bkg fee) First Call 420 0100 / 0171 344 4444 Groups 930 6123. BEST MUSICAL Laurence Olivier Awards 93 "YOU'D BE CRAZY TO MISS IT" D.Mail CRAZY FOR YOU "IS A GREAT, GLORIOUS, GLAMOROUS GOLDMINE OF A SHOW" S.Times Eves 7.45, Mats Thu & Sat 3.00 Extra Mat Wed 27 Dec at 3pm No Performance Mon 25 Dec GOOD SEATS AVAILABLE THIS WEEK

PRINCE OF WALES 0171 839 5972/420 0232/344 4444/416 6052 Grps 0171 420 0200/413 3321 TOMMY STEELE WHAT A SHOW "Tommy's Show packs Flash, Bang, Wallop" Eve Standard Evgs Mon-Sat 8pm, Mats Wed 3pm Sat 5pm For a Limited Season

PRINCE EDWARD 0171 447 5400 First Call 420 0100 (24hr Bkg fee) 344 4444 Groups 420 0200 Cameron Mackintosh presents MARTIN GUERRE A New Musical by BOUBLIL & SCHONBERG FROM 22 MAY 1996

QUEENS BO/CC (£1 bkg fee) 0171 494 5040/344 4444 Mon-Thu 8pm, Fri 8.45pm & Sat 6pm & 8.45pm LILY SAVAGE PRISONER CELL-BLOCK H THE MUSICAL "Hilarious" F.T. "A Huge Hit - A Christmas Smash" Obs 5 WEEKS ONLY! Stalls & D.C. £12.50-£24.00, Upper Circle £8.50

ROYAL SHAKESPEARE COMPANY LONDON (0171 638 8891) BARBICAN: A CHRISTMAS CAROL Ton't 7.15 THE PIT: CAIN Tomor 7.15 STRATFORD (01789 295623) RST: RICHARD III Today 1.30 THE TAMING OF THE SHREW Ton't 7.30 SWAN: THE RELAPSE Ton't 7.30 TOP: THE PHOENICIAN WOMEN Today 1.30

ST MARTIN'S 0171 836 1443 (no bkg fee) 0171 497 9977 (bkg fee) Groups 0171 312 1994 (no bkg fee) Eves 8, Tues 2.45, Sat 5 & 8 44th Year of Agatha Christie's THE MOUSETRAP

SAVOY THEATRE 0171 836 8888 cc 420 0000 grps 312 1970 No bkg fee BELINDA LANG KEVIN McNALLY in Terry Johnson's award winning comedy DEAD FUNNY "Blissfully Witty and Wicked" Eve Stand Mon-Fri 8pm, Sat 8.15pm Sat mat 5pm & Wed mat 2.30pm

SHAFTESBURY 0171 379 5399 344 4444 (24hr/bkg fee) IT'S BACK - 4 WEEKS ONLY 19 DEC-13 JAN INC MATS RETURN TO THE FORBIDDEN PLANET THE COSMIC XMAS PARTY "deliriously addictive" D Tel Mon-Thurs 8.00, Fri, Sat 5 & 8.30 No perf on Mon 25 Dec Extra mat Dec 27 at 2.30

SHAFTESBURY 0171 379 5399 CC 0171 344 4444 Until 16 Dec EDDIE IZZARD ENTIRE RUN SOLD OUT Queue daily for returns Tues - Sat 8pm & Sun 7.30pm

SHAFTESBURY 0171 379 5399 0171 344 4444 (24hr/no bkg fee) Groups 0171 413 3321 TOMMY PAUL KEATING As Tommy KIM WILDE As Mrs Walker Previews 20 February. Opens 5 March

STRAND THEATRE Box Off & cc (no fee) 0171 930 8800 cc (bkg fee) 0171 344 4444/420 0000 Groups 0171 413 3321/0171 930 6123 "BUDDY" The Buddy Holly Story "BRILLIANT" Sun "BUDDY" "WONDERFUL STUFF" Sun Tel "BUDDY" Tues-Thurs 8.0 Fri 5.30 & 8.30 Sats 5.00 & 8.30, Suns 4.00 ALL SEATS 1/2 PRICE FRI 5.30 PERF 7th HEAVENLY YEAR

VAUDEVILLE 0171 836 9987 cc 420 0000/344 4444 (no bkg fee) "For a sparkling, affectionate and hilarious evening in the theatre, go and see The RSC production of THE SHAKESPEARE REVUE" The Times "This hugely enjoyable show" Daily Telegraph Mon-Fri 8.00pm Sat 8.30pm Mats Wed 2.30pm Sat 5.30pm No Performance Mon 25 Dec

VICTORIA PALACE BO & cc (no fee) 0171 834 1317 cc (bkg fee) 0171 344 4444/312 1998/497 9977 Groups 0171 312 1987 (no fee) /0171 930 6123 (bkg fee) BRIAN CONLEY "Gives the performance of the decade" Mail on Sunday in "JOLSON" "A resounding hit" Sun. Tel "JOLSON" "Worth walking a million miles to see" D.Mail "JOLSON" Evgs Mon-Sat 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3.00 Now booking to 28 Sep 96 Some good seats available on the day of perf

WHITEHALL 369 1735/344 4444/ 420 0000 "BEST NEW MUSICAL IN TOWN...BRILLIANT" MoS ROY ORBISON STORY GUEST-STARRING P.J. PROBY ALL SEATS ½ PRICE FRI 5.30 PERF Tues-Thu 8, Fri, Sat 5.30 & 8.30, Sun 4

WYNDHAMS 0171 369 1736 MAGGIE SMITH SARA KESTELMAN SAMANTHA BOND EDWARD ALBEE'S THREE TALL WOMEN Directed by ANTHONY PAGE Tue-Sat 8pm Mats Wed & Sat 3pm LAST WEEK MUST END SAT

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THEATRE TOKENS

هكذا من الاصل



■ FILM

You'll believe a pig can talk: how they handled the animatronics of *Babe*



■ OPERA 1

Sir Colin Davis conducts a superb account of Britten's *Midsummer Night's Dream*

THE TIMES ARTS



■ OPERA 2

At the end of his tercentenary year, Purcell is staged in illuminating tandem with Lully



■ MUSIC

A concerto in memory of Jacqueline du Pré fails to do justice to its subject

A look at the making of the hit film, *Babe*, and a word with its original author

Bringing home the bacon



Dick King-Smith and porkers: his prizewinning story *The Sheep-Pig* caught director George Miller's eye

It's been a long time since a pig took the leading — indeed, speaking — role in a Hollywood film: 40 years, in fact, since John Halas's *Animal Farm*, and that was animated. Things weren't quite so simple for the makers of *Babe*, the new film of a children's story by Dick King-Smith (*interviewed, below right*). They were intent on convincing us that a real live pig and a whole barnyard of animals can not only talk, but really *act*.

The startling realism of the film, out in Britain this week, is due to a pooling of talents. Karl Lewis Miller of Animal Action trained the 47 piglets that took the starring role, and where animatronic aid was needed the magic-makers at Jim Henson's Creature Shop in London and John Cox's Creature Workshop in Queensland, Australia, lent a helping hand.

If 47 seems a great many actors for just one role, it must be borne in mind that pigs — in this case Large White Yorkshires — grow extremely quickly. Sixteen to 18 weeks of age was the window in which the pigs could be filmed; after that they were too big to be Babes. Each was hand-reared from the age of five days. "We became their mother, father, sister and brother," Miller says. They were trained much in the way dogs are — to sit, lie down, stay and come. But the 59 trainers had to keep the emotional balance just right. "I told them not to discipline the pigs," Miller says, "because they would sulk, and not to baby them as they become too happy and giggle."

So how do you get a pig to talk? Give her a snack — chewing and speaking don't look too different on a porcine face. And as for humming it up, different pigs do have different moods, so which one was chosen at any one time was based on what each scene required. "They all did the tricks, but one pig would be slower, another clumsy, another faster," Miller says. He and his assistants trained more than 900 animals for the film — not just pigs but horses, cows, goats, dogs, cats and mice.

Despite the difficulties of working with so many actors who could be far more unpredictable than their human counterparts, producer George Miller and director Chris Noonan were determined to resort as infrequently as possible to counterfeit pork. "Animatronics are brilliant," Noonan says, "but if you leave them on screen too long, the audience starts to realise it's not organic." Neil Scanlon, project director at the Creature Shop, agrees. "With the advent of computer-generated imaging, audiences are aware that a new level of realism is available," he says. "Animatronics can look obvious. This has forced us to find new approaches to our work."

The makers of *Babe* are keen to stress that real animals, not animatronics, are on screen for 96 per cent of the film. But the Creature Shop's long record of success with films such as *Dreamchild*, *The Witches* and *The Flintstones* made them the perfect providers of the missing 4 per cent. Scanlon is proud of the way in which the Shop has changed its techniques and methods to keep up with increasing demands for realism.

"For years we had been using foam latex for skin surfaces — like you see on some of the Muppets," he says. "But now we've developed silicone surfaces that have a transluscency and realism right from the start." These changes go more than skin-deep: "Mechanically, we've been looking at ways to create movement with tendons and cords rather than with levers and switches. That way you get a less abrupt movement — more the way that nature does it." Their work on *Babe* took them on to Disney's live-action remake of *101 Dalmations*, which started filming in October, and they are involved with Working Title's new *Pinocchio*.

Never work with animals or children, goes the old showbiz adage, and George Miller had his doubts at the outset. "We thought up the worst-case scenarios and doubled them," he says. But *Babe*, which cost $25 million to make, took in nearly $9 million over its opening American weekend and has already grossed $56 million. And any fears for the fates of the *Babe* 47 can be quickly dispelled: after filming all were sent to breeding farms, and their new owners have promised they will never be brought home as bacon.

ERICA WAGNER

The Australian director, George Miller, waited ten years to make *Babe*, biding his time until special effects technology could catch up with his intentions for a story he bought in 1982. The book that Miller originally fell in love with was Dick King-Smith's *The Sheep-Pig*, the prize-winning tale of Babe, a piglet who learns to herd sheep to save his bacon. Its author has 80 books to his credit, all written since 1978, when he was 56. He now writes full-time, producing an average of eight titles a year, principally for children aged up to about ten.

Talking animals are his speciality but his strength is his awareness that "taking the anthropomorphic trail is walking a tightrope". There is a danger of falling into whimsy, or being so knowledgeable about animal characteristics that the humour goes out of the window. King-Smith is a funny writer and his animals often spoof humans: in another pig book, *Saddlebottom*, for instance, he pokes fun at the army. But he has a strong allegiance to the natural order. He never dresses his animals, and although they talk and act like humans, they remain rooted in his observation of bestial behaviour.

His truth to nature also encompasses a certain brutality. Nature in his books can be "red in tooth and claw". But he sees no reason to protect children from death. He is not a mimsy writer, nor invariably politically correct. (He has a good few strong and swashbuckling female heroines but also — shock! — the odd "little-wifey" spouse.) PC is not an issue in which he has ever got embroiled; only once an editor (of *The Mouse Butcher*) bizarrely argued that the villain could not be a black cat. It became a tabby. The black cat became the hero.

King-Smith's extensive knowledge of animals stems from his 20 years as a farmer in Gloucestershire, the county of his birth. He was educated at Marlborough College, served in the Grenadier Guards, was mentioned in dispatches and invalided out in 1946. His farming career came to an end because, he says, "I knew about animals but I didn't know about business". His friends, he says, "were kind to me, and offered me various jobs. I spent three and a half years in a shoe factory . . ." At 50 he went back to Bristol University, took a Dip Ed and went into teaching for seven years at a village primary school until he was 60, by which time he had written four books.

Genial and courteous, King-Smith used to write comic verse which was published in *Punch* and other magazines. "They included *Field* and *Good Housekeeping*. You can gather from that what ghastly poetry it was," he says. His first book, *The Fox Busters*, received acclaim and is now reissued as a Puffin Modern Classic. But he says that, looking back, he feels he had not yet learnt his craft: "The language was a bit too convoluted, aimed too much at adults."

He writes "to amuse himself", but with three groups of people in mind: "For the child who has a book read to him or her, the competent child reader, and the adult who has — or chooses — to read aloud. I'm always trying to think of those three targets, and pay attention to 'read-aloud-ability'."

This has made him a bestseller here, with a worldwide readership. Two other books of his have been made into television series: *Harry's Mad* (screened last year) and the current *The Queen's Nose*.

This last story, and his series about a six-year-old farm girl called Sophie, are inspired, he says, by his wife Myrle, whom he first met at 13, and married when he was 21. Myrle is, he says, "small but determined", and he can "imagine pretty much how she was" when she was that bit younger still.

They have three children, ten grandchildren and three great-grandchildren, which, along with the primary school teaching experience, helps to account for his realistic portrayal of children, and how he manages to plug into their dreams. His most recent Sophie story, for instance, *Sophie's Lucky*, has its diminutive heroine inherit not only a farm in Scotland but a desirable pony to go with it. King-Smith has recently added some school-based stories to his oeuvre.

Of his 80 books he says *The Sheep-Pig* happens to be his favourite: "I can't write better than that." And he's delighted with the film: "Ten out of ten," he enthuses, quite unfazed by some tampering with plot and characters. "All the changes add to its charm and power. Only an idiot would expect a film to be identical to a book."

He also expresses no resentment of the fact that the fee which he accepted years ago for the film rights — a fee which he thought handsome at the time — now looks like "peppercorns" in the light of its success. "Then there was no guarantee that the film would be made at all." He only hopes it will make even more people read his books.

If it does have this effect life will be harder for him. He already gets thousands of fan letters from children all over the globe, and is meticulous about answering every one himself. Instead of regarding this as a chore, he sees the letters as a dividend after several careers "that were not terribly successful". Such a decent chap. But then, so are his pigs.

NICOLETTE JONES

● Babe *opens in Britain on Friday, and will be reviewed on Thursday*

Comedy of no errors

OPERA

Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme/ Dido and Aeneas
Covent Garden

At first sight a staging in Purcell Year of the Molière-Lully *Bourgeois Gentilhomme*, in French, in a double bill with *Dido* looked like one of the English Bach Festival's dottier and more endearing notions. In the event it was both enormous fun and highly instructive and, as so often in the past, the fact that embattled EBF can only afford one-night stands was cause for regret. The Royal Opera House was full on Sunday, and a repeat would have been welcome.

The Molière is officially designated a *comédie ballet*. It is a play for actors, singers and dancers, or rather for performers who can act, sing and dance. Today we would designate it a "semi-opera", the somewhat condescending term devised to describe the theatrical entertainments for which Purcell provided music. But Molière's piece was first performed in 1670; Purcell's heyday came 20 years later. It is good to be reminded that there was much cross-channel traffic in those days, and that that most "English" of forms is as French as frogs' legs.

The performance worked well at any level. Director Alain Germain cleverly shortened the play to 80 minutes, giving the music just enough context. It was quite brilliantly delivered. Yves Gourvil (M Jourdain) is one of those French actors with india-rubber features who is irresistibly funny before he has even opened his mouth, and doubly so when he has. He met his match in Marianne Borgo as his shrewish wife, and was surrounded by an expert troupe whose division in the programme into actors, singers and dancers was otiose: you could scarcely tell which were which, and that is as it should be. Philippe Giraudeau (Dancing Master), Yves Aubert (Philosopher) and Graeme Broadbent (Mufti) deserve special mention. Stephen Preston's choreography was properly elegant without ever descending to mere preciousness.

Perhaps the most startling, not to say subversive, element of the performance at a time when people maintain that you can't deliver dialogue in big theatres without amplification, was the unaided clarity of the spoken text. Every wittily inflected line came pinging out loud and clear — and the audience fell about laughing at Molière's jokes.

The other subversive element was the clear demonstration that Lully was not a very good composer, and one secretly longed to be hearing Strauss's incidental music to the same play. Under Jean-Claude Malgoire's direction the performance passed by pleasantly enough, no more.

It was a relief after the interval to settle down to the Purcell, cannily conducted by Howard Williams — *Dido* doesn't play itself — and rather better played by the EBF Baroque Orchestra. The rhythmic, disciplined choral singing gave special pleasure.

Tom Hawkes's production is straightforward and very musical. I don't know whether Purcell Year is officially over yet, but Della Jones's poised, inward, ravishingly phrased account of Dido's Lament could hardly provide a more fitting climax.

RODNEY MILNES

True to Britten's dream

A Midsummer Night's Dream
Barbican

It was in a newspaper article introducing the premiere of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* in June 1960 that Benjamin Britten railed against "a curious inverted snobbery current in this country which . . . prefers operatic acting to be as bad as possible". For his part, he wanted "singers who can act".

Nowadays, that's probably what we all want, so it was both welcome and appropriate that this Barbican *Dream* turned out to be rather more than the concert performance it was billed as.

A quarter or so of the platform had been set aside as an acting area, with the orchestra occupying the remainder and the well-drilled New London Children's Choir at the back. The cast, directed by Christopher Newell, performed without scores and made few concessions to the constraints of semi-staging. Lighting focused attention and suggested location. Modern costumes — the frocks (but not the fairies' dungarees and baseball caps) from Hardy Amies — added eclectic colour. Carl Ferguson's nimble young Puck raced around the hall.

The simple but effective staging, however, was a bonus — and, to those sitting on the side of the hall farthest from the singers, it may not have been an unqualified one. What had packed the Barbican Hall on a wintry Sunday afternoon was the promise of music-making of the highest order.

Sir Colin Davis ensured that the promise was fulfilled. Holding taut the strands of Britten's intricate score, he relished the ravishing, mysterious sonorities and delicate inner lines with which it conjures the contrasting worlds of fairies, mortals and rustics, yet never sacrificed dramatic purpose to beauty of sound. The London Symphony Orchestra responded with refined yet incisive playing.

The cast would be difficult to better. At its heart was the beguiling Oberon of Brian Asawa. With a quietly authoritative stage presence, and a voice warm and polished throughout its wide range, he achieves an utter naturalness rare among countertenors, yet sacrifices none of the unearthly quality that Britten had in mind when he first cast Alfred Deller in the role. Elizabeth Futral was his radiant, intense Tytania, her high soprano bright and bold in the most taxing coloratura. Both made words count.

So too did the troubled quartet of mortal lovers. Ruby Philogene's fiery Hermia and Janice Watson's archly confident Helena were passionate in their bewilderment. John Mark Ainsley was a dignified, anxious Lysander and Paul Whelan a robust Demetrius. All seemed a little lacking in lust, though not in lustre.

Lustiness, however, there was in plenty, thanks to a touchingly funny — never coarse — team of rustics, under the engaging direction of Gwynne Howell's long-suffering Quince. Robert Lloyd was a Bottom of earthy charm. As Flute, Ian Bostridge — a singer it now seems impertinent to describe as promising — added a delightful line in gawky comedy to his already considerable accomplishments.

IAN BRUNSKILL

Memories aren't made of this

CONCERT

RSNO/Weller
Usher Hall, Edinburgh

IT WOULD be a wonderful thing if, in what would have been her 50th-birthday year, the memory of Jacqueline du Pré were to inspire a work worthy of her qualities as a musician. Ronald Stevenson's cello concerto, *The Solitary Singer*, which is in fact dedicated to the memory of du Pré, is not that work.

In an unsatisfactory first performance by Moray Welsh, Walter Weller and the Royal Scottish National Orchestra, it seemed scarcely competent. With du Pré herself as soloist it would have been a little different. She might have imposed a personality on it in a way which Welsh, who is a quite different kind of musician, is not naturally disposed to do. She might have given the work some sense of purpose and continuity, motivating the conductor and orchestra to stay with her rather than drift into a total collapse of ensemble before the end of the first movement. She would, on the other hand, have had the same unremarkable material to deal with, the same ill-calculated effects in scoring, the same dysfunctional construction.

The most colourful of the three movements is the second, in which the composer makes peculiarly much of du Pré's marriage to Daniel Barenboim and her adoption of the Jewish faith. With wind instruments imitating the sound of the shofar, variations on the *Kol Nidrei*, and a generally rhapsodic element recalling the spirit of Bloch's *Schelomo*, it is an atmospheric kind of scherzo. Instead of a cadenza, however, there is an unfortunate solo episode based on what is identified in the programme as a hiking song of the Israeli Young Pioneers — a trivial tune of dubious relevance which is transformed in the last movement into an "almost Hebridean" melody of no more evident relevance.

Hugh MacDiarmid's poem *The Nightingale* would be very relevant if an allusion to Stevenson's setting of it were not, towards the end, choked by the mindless chatter of the flexatone.

At the beginning of what was not one of the most successful of the RSNO's concerts in the Usher Hall, Weller conducted a discouragingly limp interpretation of Wagner's *Siegfried Idyll*.

At the end he conducted Brahms's Fourth Symphony in a performance which, just about everywhere except the third movement, was fractionally too slow — not extremely and interestingly slow but marginally and frustratingly slow.

GERALD LARNER

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LAW

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ENTERPRISE



In the clear: (above clockwise) Roderic Minshull and his wife, Joseph Elliott, Barrie Richards and Ted Newberry

REUTER



ANDREW SHAW



NORTH NEWS



Vigilante or victim?

The Government is under pressure to define the law relating to self-defence, **Gary Slapper** writes

"The house of everyone," it was proclaimed in a case in 1604, "is to him as his castle and fortress." This principle has come to be the cherished credo of millions of citizens. Yet today, many people are puzzled by a legal system which prosecutes a householder for criminal assault in circumstances where, in absolute terror, he uses force against a burglar in his home.

The Crown Prosecution Service will soon report on this area of law, after being invited last month by the Home Secretary to include it in a review of guidelines on charging people with assault. Speaking at the Police Superintendents' Association's annual conference last month, Michael Howard said that people who use violence to defend themselves should be treated more sympathetically.

Two recent developments have raised the heat of this debate. Last month the Court of Appeal decided that a trespasser engaged in criminal activities is owed a duty of care by a person defending his property, and can claim compensation for injuries suffered if the force used against him exceeds "reasonable limits".

The case arose from an incident in which Ted Newberry, an 82-year-old from Ilkeston, Derbyshire, shot a 12-bore gun at a young intruder, Mark Revill, who was trying to break into Mr Newberry's shed. Mr Newberry was prosecuted on charges of wounding, but was acquitted by a jury. Then, in a civil case, Mr Newberry was ordered to pay £4,000 damages to Revill, who had served a four-month jail sentence for offences including attempted burglary of the shed. The Court of Appeal held that the duty imposed by Parliament on occupiers of land to trespassers, even burglars who intrude in the middle of the night, meant that nobody could be treated as an "outlaw" and thus fair game.

Then, just two weeks later, a Crown Court judge obliquely criticised the Crown Prosecution Service for having brought charges against a man for attacking a thief. Barrie Richards, aged 59, had given evidence at Teesside Crown Court that he had fired a shotgun into trees when he saw an escaping thief run there for cover. The flats complex that Mr Richards had been trying to protect had been plagued with burglaries. The young thief was caught and eventually jailed for eight months, but this did not affect Mr Richards being prosecuted as some of his shotgun pellets had hit the thief. The jury took just ten minutes to acquit Mr Richards, and Judge Peter Fox said: "I would invite the attention of [the CPS] to the fact that it took the jury... a few minutes to determine that the right verdict was not guilty."

This, though, is merely the latest in a developing series of similar cases over the past couple of years that alarm the public either because, like Mr Richards's case, they appear to be inappropriate prosecutions of virtuous men, or, much worse, because the self-defender wins in law but outrages public opinion.

Joseph Elliott's trial in July 1993 is a case in point. Elliott, aged 19, was out at night, high on drink and drugs, when he slashed the tyres of a car. The brother-in-law of the car owner saw this and armed himself with a hammer and challenged Elliott. In the ensuing struggle, Elliott stabbed and killed the man, and at his trial for murder successfully pleaded self-defence.

Earlier this year in Sheffield, Ben Lyon, aged 73, who opened fire with his shotgun on a man he believed was about to burgle his allotment shed, was convicted of wounding with intent and given a suspended sentence. Two days after Mr Lyon's conviction, police decided to take no action against a man in Nottinghamshire after two burglars suffered severe shocks from electrical fencing he had erected outside his home. By contrast, Roderic Minshull, a Cambridgeshire man who wired up his car with a home-made anti-theft device, was acquitted of assault when a security guard received an 8,000-volt shock from touching it.

> Society will not condone private judgments of criminals. Down that road lies a Mad Max society

The Home Secretary said after the Elliott case in 1993 that he would review the law. So far, however, there have been no concrete changes.

The real problem is that the application of the law is vexed by a variety of regional and local interpretations by police officers of what amounts to reasonable conduct by someone (paradoxically) trying to uphold the law. The issue is further complicated by inconsistencies in regional CPS practice and further made fraught by unpredictable juries.

The law says that a person charged with a crime may plead that he acted as he did to protect himself, or his property, or others from attack, or to prevent a crime. This, strictly speaking, is not a "defence", but a justification for the defensive conduct which, if successfully pleaded, makes the conduct lawful.

It is clear that a person may make a pre-emptive strike. "A man about to be attacked," said Lord Griffiths in one case, "does not have to wait for his assailant to strike the first blow or fire the first shot." Neither does he, or she, have to retreat before using force. The force must be "necessary", but it is left to juries to decide if an assailant could have been evaded rather than attacked.

Force used against an attacker must be "reasonable in the circumstances", and it is in relation to this phrase that the greatest confusion has arisen. One line of judicial pronouncements, concluding recently in the House of Lords decision in the case of Private Lee Clegg, states that the test of whether the force was reasonable is objective. Thus if the prosecution shows that, in fact, the force was excessive, then the defence fails. There is, though, Court of Appeal authority for saying that the decisive factor is whether the force used was reasonable according to the defendant's perception of events. Either way, however, as Lord Morris said in a case in 1971, "a person defending himself cannot weigh to a nicety the exact measure of his necessary defensive action".

In confirming that it was proper for Ted Newberry to have to compensate Mark Revill for peppering him with pellets, the Court of Appeal's rationale was partly based upon the notion that our society will not condone the personal, subjective determination of what "criminals" deserve. It is not difficult to see that down that road lies a Mad Max society.

The Law Commission has recently proposed a test which blends subjective and objective elements to discover whether the force used by someone was reasonable. The key question would be whether the violence was "reasonable in the circumstances he believed them to be".

This proposal, or others by the CPS, may simplify the law. Nevertheless, there is evidence that a larger problem will still loom: the escalation of people using force to defend their homes as domestic burglaries proliferate and the criminal justice system is widely regarded as unreliable. The law on self-defence has remained essentially the same for decades; it is the dramatic change in its social use that has catapulted it into debate.

● *Dr Slapper is principal lecturer in law at Staffordshire University*

Over the border in hot pursuit of fraud

Fraud, unlike most other crimes, often spans several countries. Fraudsters have no respect for international frontiers; indeed they are adept at exploiting the territorial nature of our laws. This year the Serious Fraud Office (SFO) received requests for help from as far afield as Argentina and Australia, but how well equipped are we to deal with the new phenomenon?

In Europe, the Convention on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters enables evidence to be gathered in one contracting state for use in the criminal courts of another. It was not ratified by the United Kingdom until 1991, but has improved the response to international fraud in Europe.

However, although several countries now have modern mutual assistance laws, others — particularly in the Commonwealth — still rely on old British legislation not designed to help with fraud investigation. Where the relationship between the UK and the overseas territory is closest, the mutual assistance arrangements may be most constrained. If, for example, we request help from Switzerland, it will be acted upon swiftly under the European convention. But if a similar request goes to some of our dependent territories — often significant offshore financial centres — it is rejected unless and until a defendant has been charged.

Paradoxically, some Caribbean dependent territories have entered into treaties (negotiated by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office) to share information with and provide mutual assistance to the United States; but have been unwilling to change their domestic legislation to render the same assistance to the United Kingdom and others.

A mutual legal assistance treaty agreed by the US and the UK is due to be ratified by Congress. The US already has one of the most open and helpful mutual assistance regimes in the world.

Little will be achieved in international affairs without goodwill and reciprocity. To this end the UK has done much to improve its own legal regime. It has tried to ensure a rapid response to the requests of other states. The Serious Fraud Office can now compel the production of information to help foreign fraud investigations.

There are also difficulties when cases come to trial. Bankers and others often have to be brought from abroad to explain the intricacies of financial transactions involving networks of bank accounts and the use of offshore companies, trusts and administrators. But such witnesses cannot be made to attend our courts. And they may even be bound by strict secrecy laws with penal sanctions in their own country. It is difficult to imagine a greater inhibition to successful prosecutions.

In the UK, willing overseas witnesses can now give evidence by television link from their own country. This means courts can obtain important evidence which previously would have been denied to them. Individual countries, including the UK, must take powers to compel witnesses to attend at appropriate premises where a television link with a foreign court can be established.

Where it is not possible to bring witnesses to this country or take their evidence by television link, the Criminal Justice Act 1988 does allow business and other records to be admitted as evidence, without the need to call the witness — the so-called hearsay provisions. Without these provisions there is a danger that defendants will demand the production of live witnesses formally to produce the documents to the court even though their authenticity cannot reasonably be doubted. If witnesses are not available, evidence will be lost.

CAMERA PRESS



GEORGE STAPLE

Serious fraud cases, which are largely document-driven, are particularly vulnerable. Unfortunately, the provisions have been slow to catch up, probably because of the strong oral tradition in British courts. There has been a tendency to regard hearsay as a last resort.

Our criminal law is largely territorial. That means that in the main, you can be tried only in the United Kingdom for crimes committed here. But many other countries assert worldwide jurisdiction over the activities of their own nationals, and refuse to extradite them. There may be some countries where an accused will not receive a fair trial, and a refusal to extradite even non-nationals may still be appropriate. But in most cases, where people and corporations are free to move to, or set up businesses in, foreign countries (and therefore free to commit crimes there), that country's right to try them should be recognised and supported internationally. This is particularly so within the European Union.

Our criminal law must also recognise new forms of evidence. It takes no account of changes in computer technology. Meanwhile, a technological revolution has been occurring. It is increasingly hard to determine in which country a "transaction", and therefore an offence, has taken place. In the fight against international fraud, close co-operation between governments is essential. But governments must also recognise the urgent need to modernise their laws in this field, if that fight is to be effective.

● *The author is Director of the Serious Fraud Office.*

Fees crisis on agenda

WITH conveyancing fees at an all-time low, the Law Society's council meeting on Thursday on how to stamp out cut-price conveyancing charges is expected to attract record attendance. Such is the interest in the proposals — chiefly whether colleagues who refuse to charge a recommended guideline fee should be denied insurance cover — that society officials are having to relay the meeting live to another room via close-circuit television. The council chamber cannot accommodate the throngs of solicitors expected.

The council will also discuss a specification for the person who will replace John Hayes, the secretary-general. The aim, according to council papers, is to find a "strong but not dominant" personality. Speculation is rife that Hayes, who is to be chairman of the new Occupational Pensions Regulatory Authority, is under pressure to go even before his chosen date of the end of May.

Partner blow

THE new senior partner at Wilde Sapte is a man who is proud to blow his own horn. Mark Andrews, who takes up his new position in January, is known for his love of playing the French horn. To the point where the unwary can suddenly find themselves serenaded in the firm's car park.

Bar bashing

THE Lord Chancellor's proposals to reform legal aid have been attacked from all sides of the legal profession. But no description of the plans has been quite as withering as that by Anne Rafferty, QC, chairman of the Criminal Bar Association. "Our response to the poisonous legal aid proposals has not only stood alone as impressive, but has also been fundamental to the way the Bar Council's comments were phrased," she writes in the latest CBA newsletter.

Rights on

DINAH ROSE, a barrister with 2 Hare Court, beat 100 other finalists to become the Cosmopolitan/American Express Achievement Award Winner for her human rights and sex discrimination work.

Parties to action

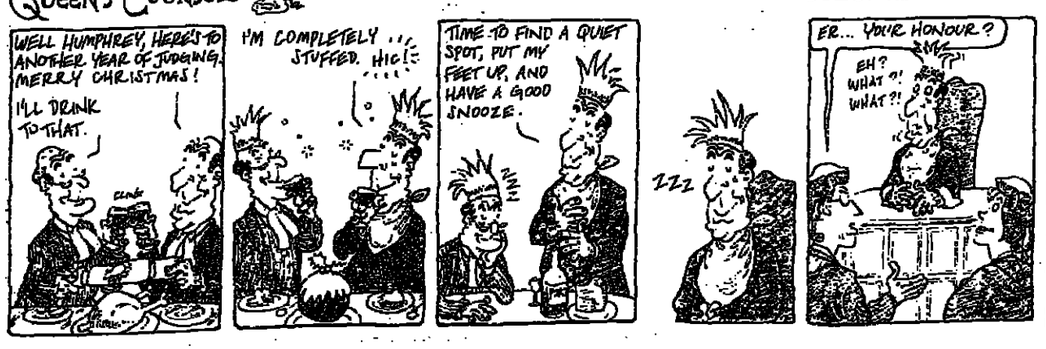
CHRISTMAS parties have caused a few early headaches among the law firms out in the snowy regions. In Leeds, Hammond Suddards has decided not to have a firm-wide party at all, said a spokeswoman: "We cannot find anywhere big enough for all of us together, so we are having department parties this year." Bristol's Osborne Clark has been more conventional, with one big pre-Christmas bash at the Marriott Hotel, the only venue big enough.

Plymouth's Bond Pearce has chosen the Manor House Hotel outside Newton Abbot, complete with a novel entertainment. The firm has hired a dance coordinator who, says a spokeswoman, "teaches dance routines to funny songs, and we will all have to join in". So long as the partners stay off the scrumpy.

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CHAMBERS

More Lawyer Jokes

There is no let-up in the stream of lawyer jokes pouring out of America, mainly from New York. The old 'Philadelphia lawyer' now seems to work in Manhattan.

Here's an example: An engineer, a physicist and a lawyer were interviewed for a job, and were each asked what two plus two makes. The engineer made several measurements and calculations and came back with the answer, "four". The physicist went off to ring the US Standards Bureau and came back with the same answer: "four". The lawyer drew down the window blinds, peered out of the door to see if anyone was listening, and said, "How much do you want it to be?"

Another one: An elderly lawyer died and went to heaven. The Pope died the same day and accompanied him. St Peter escorted the Pope to a rather small and shabby hostel tucked away behind the heavenly laundries. He returned to escort the lawyer to a grand suite of rooms overlooking a private swimming pool. "I'm most grateful," said the lawyer, "but why am I treated better than the Pope? St Peter took him by the arm: "We have over a hundred Popes here, and we're getting bored with them, but we've never had a lawyer before."

All the jokes are similarly hostile, and many hinge on lawyers' greed. For instance: A man went to see a lawyer. "What are your fees?" he asked. "$50 for three questions," replied the lawyer. "Isn't that a bit much?" he asked. "Yes," said the lawyer. "What's your third question?"

Finally, the ultimate insult: What do you get if you cross a lawyer with a drunk pig? Answer: Nothing – there are some things even a drunk pig won't do.

Michael Chambers

Thanks to Paul L. Mendres, NY, for these jokes

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There has been a sea change in the attitudes of judges towards training in the past 30 years. Many judges thought it unnecessary and an insult

Judges go back to school

Frances Gibb on the change in attitudes that led to an overhaul of judicial training

Judges used to spit blood at the mention of training. Lord Devlin, the late law lord, delivered a diatribe against the very idea of it: and, as Lord Justice Henry confessed last week, "when on a training camp about 20 years ago, I joined the escape committee as soon as I arrived".

Lord Justice Henry is now a convert. So much so that he heads the Judicial Studies Board, the body in charge of training some 60,000 judges and magistrates in England and Wales; and in that job last week he outlined plans for an overhaul of judicial training designed to take it into the 21st century.

His own conversion is typical of what he calls the sea change in attitude among most judges over the past 25-30 years. Before, he says, most of them thought "the training of judges was not only quite unnecessary, but also something of an insult. If they had spent all their life in court, they did not need any training for the task." The hostility was so bad that a judge trying a personal injury case could not even be guided on what figure the damages should be.

But now modern judges not only accept training — they want it. There is a wide and growing demand for courses, not just from new judges, but for continuing training ("refresher" courses) as well as specific courses geared to new laws, such as the programme of training roadshows held across the country to instruct judges in the Children Act 1989.

The demand is coming not only from judges, but from outside. The Royal Commission wanted a more expanded and formalised system of training for judges; and Lord Woolf, with his radical proposals to overhaul the culture of civil justice, sees judges becoming "trial managers": they will need training in moving from being back-seat passive referees to taking the wheel in trials and steering them.

At the same time, there is significant pressure on the resources to deliver that training — both the raw material of the judges themselves, and the money to run the courses.

The upshot is that the Judicial Studies Board has decided it must move onto a more professional and independent footing. For the first time it will be given an independent budget and hived off from the Lord Chancellor's Department.

"The board relies too heavily on the dedication of a small body of tutor judges giving up an unacceptable amount of their spare time. This is not a satisfactory professional basis on which to proceed.

"We have gone as far as we can with the old board, which is a rather British institution that has been amateurish in the best sense of the word — but it has worked. Now it must change and expand," Lord Justice Henry said.

As a first step, the board is to submit a bid in April to the Lord Chancellor for a substantial increase in its present funding of £1.3 million.

But the likelihood of a big injection of funds looks remote. Even a doubling of the budget could be swallowed in training judges in line with Woolf, and in the continuing onslaught of new legislation. There will be little room to expand the core training of new judges, widely praised for quality but woefully short on quantity.

Nonetheless, the board has plans to progress its work in the delicate area of training judges in human awareness in the wake of a working party report chaired by Mr Justice Potter. This training will build on the successful courses already being held on ethnic minorities. Initial hostility appears to be on the wane. A survey of 2,500 judges had found that only a handful were hostile to training.

Lord Justice Henry said this was an important area which would be taken forward by two judges — Judges Pitchers and Sumner — who had been jointly appointed to the new post of director of studies. Judge Sumner said: "The old view that common sense and courtesy is enough has gone. We've got to go beyond that and understand people's perceptions."

The areas to be covered go further than just gender awareness, taking in "unrepresented parties, witnesses, jurors, victims and their families, children, persons under physical or mental disability and gender issues".

The next step was to devise how this training could be included in the courses.

Some may see the hiving off of the board as a first step towards a Judicial Training College, although the idea of having a special building for the task has been rejected. Lord Justice Henry dislikes the label anyway. It is a "much too grandiose term" which might alarm judges. "Everything we do is gradualist, because we have to satisfy our independent-minded and critical clientele."

The approach seems to be working. Now the modern judge "accepted, appreciated and benefited" from training, he said.

If there is one message he wants to get over, it is that training for judges is not a duty, but "a right".

Lawyers with a bedside manner

Nursing can be an ideal grounding for the law, says **Fiona Bawdon**

Lawyers may be described as many things, but angels is not usually one of them. Yet it seems that an increasing number of nurses and other health workers are retraining to become lawyers — and working not just in areas of law such as medical negligence and personal injury, but also doing family work and even commercial litigation.

In this, as in many other aspects of law, the UK is following in the footsteps of America. In the United States, "nurse attorneys" are a well recognised phenomenon, and the long-established American Association of Nurse Attorneys has some 7,000 members. One assistant district attorney in the Los Angeles Police Department apparently takes a break from her regular work prosecuting police killers to do a half-day stint in the renal unit of her local hospital.

This Thursday sees the start of this country's answer to the American nurses' group, the Nurses in the Law Association (Nila). No figures exist for the number of UK lawyers with a nursing background but about 60 have been identified so far. Rosamund Rhodes-Kemp is one of the prime movers behind the formation of the group. Now a partner with the specialist personal injury firm Russell Jones & Walker, she previously spent seven years as a nurse.

One of the main aims of Nila is to recognise and promote the additional skills which former nurses bring to the law. First and foremost among these is not, as one cynic commented, the ability to stitch people up, but management skills. Ms Rhodes-Kemp emphasises that nurses do not spend all their time hovering at bedsides waiting to squeeze a hand or mop a brow, but as managers. Nursing sisters have busy wards to run and many are now fundholders. "People think nurses' training is three years of bedpans, but it's not. It's three years of management," says Ms Rhodes-Kemp.

If solicitors are, in general, poor managers they are even worse communicators. According to Jane Wright, a former physiotherapist who is now a partner at the Sheffield firm Irwin Mitchell, the most important asset healthcare workers can bring to the law is their communication skills. After all, once you have experienced telling a parent that his child will never walk again, breaking the news that a client's conveyance has gone horribly wrong is easy.

Both Ms Wright and Ms Rhodes-Kemp chose law because — unlike nursing — it is a career in which you can progress without losing touch with clients. Many others seem to be following suit. According to John Tingle, reader in health law at Nottingham Law School, his university alone takes on three or four nurses as students each year.

It is a trend which does not surprise Ms Wright, who says: "While the law is trying to become more client-based, the health service is doing the exact reverse and moving towards a stark business management approach."

Ms Rhodes Kemp sees her switch into law as a natural career progression. "Nurses are known within the NHS as patients' advocates. I still act on behalf of patients. They just happen to be ones where something has gone wrong."

Even so, it may be some time before lawyers shake off their poor public image. Ms Ms Rhodes-Kemp admits that it is hard going from being an angel to being perceived as, if not actually the Devil, then a not too distant relative. "As a lawyer, I'd like to know where all the successful clients go. Why are they not speaking up for us? Lawyers need to work harder to make sure clients know the good we do. On a ward, patients see me working. But, as a lawyer, my clients aren't in the office with me at 7am," she says.

For all their legal training, however, nurses have not managed to shake off their bedpan image altogether. The new group was originally going to be called the Association of Nurses In the Law — until it was pointed out that this would have an unfortunate-sounding acronym.

● *Nurses in the Law Association has its inaugural meeting this Thursday. For more details, contact Rosamund Rhodes-Kemp on 0171-837 2808.*

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Entitlement to civil liability contribution

Birse Construction Ltd v Haiste Ltd

Before Lord Justice Nourse, Lord Justice Roch and Sir John May

[Judgment December 5]

For there to be an entitlement to claim contribution under section 1(1) of the Civil Liability (Contribution) Act 1978 two parties had to be liable in respect of the same damage suffered by a third party.

The Court of Appeal so held in a reserved judgment in allowing an appeal brought by the second third party, Eric Donald Newton, an engineer employed by Anglian Water Authority, against the decision of Judge Cyril Newman, QC, sitting on official referee's business, on March 30, 1995, when he held that the defendant firm of consulting engineers, Haiste Ltd, could claim contribution from Mr Newton for the financial losses claimed by the plaintiff building and civil engineering contractors, Birse Construction Ltd, sustained by it in the cost of the reconstruction of a reservoir for Anglian Water Authority following the completion of a first reservoir which proved to be defective.

The Court of Appeal held that since the damage suffered by Anglian was the physical defect of the reservoir and the damage suffered by the plaintiff was the financial loss of having to construct a second reservoir, the damage suffered could not be said to be the same.

Section 1 of the 1978 Act provides: "(1) . . . any person liable in respect of any damage suffered by another person may recover contribution from any other person liable in respect of the same damage. . ."

Mr Richard Gray, QC, for Mr Newton: Mr Robert Akenhead, QC and Mr Adrian Williamson for Haiste; Birse Construction did not appear and was not represented.

SIR JOHN MAY said that the plaintiff was awarded a contract after tender by Anglian Water Authority for the design and construction of a reinforced concrete storage reservoir and associated building and engineering works.

The defendants were retained by the plaintiff to act as its consulting engineers in the preparation of the tender for and the design of the reservoir project.

Mr Newton was employed by Anglian and appointed by it as the engineer for the purpose of the contract with the plaintiff and as the construction engineer for the purposes of section 7 of the Reservoirs Act 1975 to issue all necessary certificates.

The reservoir proved to be defective and Anglian made a claim against the plaintiff in respect of the defective reservoir and its consequential losses.

That claim was settled by an agreement between Anglian and the plaintiff under which, inter alia, it was agreed that the original reservoir could not be adequately repaired or replaced and that the plaintiff should at its own expense construct a new reservoir and associated works.

The question for determination was whether the liability of Mr Newton to Anglian was a liability in respect of the same damage as the defendants to the plaintiff within the meaning of the 1978 Act. Judge Newman answered the question in the affirmative.

The appeal raised a novel point under section 1(1) of the 1978 Act. The argument on behalf of the defendants which was accepted by Judge Newman was that the damage with which the litigation was concerned was in substance the defective condition of the reservoir and the need to replace it.

The judge had held that as a matter of construction, the 1978 Act provided a remedy regardless of the causes of action which gave rise to the liability; that is, regardless of the causes of action as well as of the identity of the person liable in respect of the same damage.

In support of his appeal, counsel for Mr Newton submitted that it was a matter of construction of section 1(1).

He contended that on its proper construction the section meant that the person being given a right to recover contribution had to be liable to another person who could only be the plaintiff in the material litigation or someone with whom the person seeking the compensation had reached a bona fide settlement or compromise and that the person seeking contribution had to be liable to the other person in respect of some damage suffered by that other person.

It was also pointed out on behalf of Mr Newton that the judge's decision gave rise to practical problems. By section 2(1) the amount of contribution recoverable from any person was such as was found just and equitable with regard to that person's responsibility for the damage in question.

If it was only the compensation due to a plaintiff which was in question, then all the circumstances surrounding the claim were already in issue anyway and apportionment between two persons liable to the plaintiff could be fairly made.

But if the judge's decision was correct, then the picture became confused and impossible to resolve. In the instant case, the judge would have to assess Mr Newton's degree of responsibility for Anglian's losses when Anglian was not a party and was Mr Newton's employer. Such losses might or might not be the same as the losses the plaintiff claimed from the defendants.

In his Lordship's judgment, the judge erred in holding that the answer raised should be answered in the affirmative. His Lordship saw no reason to construe section 1(1) otherwise than directly and simply as it stood.

Any person who was liable in respect of any damage suffered by another could recover contribution from another person liable in respect of the same damage.

The simple direct reading of the subsection had to lead one to conclude that (i) "the same damage" could only refer to the damage spoken of some dozen or so words earlier in the subsection and (ii) damage suffered by the same person.

The loss suffered by Anglian in not having a completed properly working reservoir at the time that they expected, the loss sustained by the plaintiff in having to construct a second reservoir or the damages which the defendants might have to pay the plaintiff or for which Mr Newton might be liable to Anglian were not for "the same damage" within the meaning of section 1(1).

In rejecting the construction of section 1(1) which his Lordship preferred, the judge expressed the view that such a construction would require the words "to that person" to be inserted after the word "liable" and before the words "in respect of the same damage". The absence of those words did not lead his Lordship to the conclusion that his opinion as to the proper conclusion was wrong.

Lord Justice Roch and Lord Justice Nourse delivered concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Fenwick Elliot; Alastair Thomson & Partners.

Professional misconduct in negligent treatment

McCandless v General Medical Council

Before Lord Goff of Chieveley, Lord Nicholls of Birkenhead and Lord Hoffmann

[Judgment December 11]

Seriously negligent medical treatment could amount to serious professional misconduct.

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council so held when dismissing an appeal by Dr David Noel McCandless against the determination of the professional conduct committee of the General Medical Council on March 16, 1995, that by reason of a finding of serious professional misconduct his name be erased from the register of medical practitioners.

Mr John E. Mitting, QC for Dr McCandless; Miss Joanna Glynn for the GMC.

LORD HOFFMANN said that the charges alleged errors in Dr McCandless's diagnoses of three patients and failure to refer them to hospital. Two subsequently died and the other was found on her eventual admission to hospital to be seriously ill.

Mr Mitting accepted that the professional conduct committee's findings of fact were not open to any material dispute and that in each case Dr McCandless had been negligent.

The chairman of the committee gave the following brief reasons for its finding that he had been guilty of serious professional misconduct:

"Dr McCandless, the committee take a very serious view of the evidence which they have heard about the poor standard of medical care which you provided to all three patients in this case. The care which you provided fell deplorably short of the standard which patients are entitled to expect from their general practitioners."

Mr Mitting submitted that those reasons revealed an error of law by the committee. He said that the committee applied the wrong test for what amounted to serious professional misconduct.

It thought that it was enough that the treatment given to the three patients fell "deplorably short" of the standard which would reasonably be expected.

Mr Mitting submitted that poor treatment was not enough. The doctor might nevertheless have been doing his best. He might have been overworked or just not particularly good at the job.

But "serious professional misconduct" meant, he said, conduct which was morally blameworthy. That could not be determined simply by deciding whether the treatment measured up to an objective standard.

One had to look at why the doctor gave the treatment which he did. If it fell short of a reasonable standard because he was, for example, too lazy or drunk to examine the patient properly, then he would be guilty of misconduct. But not if he made an honest mistake.

Some support could be found for Mr Mitting's submission in old cases on the meaning of "infamous conduct in a professional respect" the words which were used in nineteenth century medical statutes and which continued to be used until replaced by the words "serious professional misconduct" in the Medical Act 1969, for example *Felix v General Dental Council* ([1960] AC 704).

Since *Felix* however, much had changed.

First, the words "infamous conduct in a professional respect" were replaced by "serious professional misconduct". The authorities on the old wording did not speak with one voice and they were of little assistance in the interpretation of the new.

Second, although there remained the single disciplinary offence now styled "serious professional misconduct", the possible penalties available to the committee, which used to be confined to the ultimate sanction of erasure, had been extended to include suspension and the imposition of conditions upon practice. That suggested that the offence was intended to include serious cases of negligence.

Third, the public had higher expectations of doctors and members of other self-governing professions. Their governing bodies were under a corresponding duty to protect the public against the genially incompetent as well as the deliberate wrongdoers.

Fourth, the meaning of the new wording had been authoritatively stated by by the Board in *Doughty v General Dental Council* ([1988] AC 164, 173) in objective terms: "judged by proper professional standards in the light of the objective facts about the individual patients . . . the dental treatments criticised as unnecessary [were] treatments that no dentist of reasonable skill exercising reasonable care would carry out". That test was equally applicable to treatment by doctors and should make it unnecessary in the future to revisit *Felix* or any of the other earlier authorities.

Once it was accepted that seriously negligent treatment could amount to serious professional misconduct the appeal had to fail.

The eminent medical practitioners who sat on the committee came to the conclusion that Dr McCandless's treatment of his three patients fell deplorably short of the standard to which patients were entitled to expect from general practitioners.

In the circumstances, it was scarcely surprising that they concluded that he was guilty of serious professional misconduct.

Their Lordships could see no basis for interfering with that conclusion. Nor could they see any ground for interfering with the committee's decision that the offences merited the penalty of erasure from the register.

Their Lordships recommended that the appeal should be dismissed.

Solicitors: Gamlins Storrar Cowdry, Rhyl; Field Fisher Waterhouse.

Reduced privatised passenger rail service lawful

Regina v Director of Passenger Rail Franchising, Ex parte Save Our Railways and Others

Regina v Same and Others

Before Mr Justice Macpherson of Cluny

[Judgment December 8]

As part of the package of tender documents inviting bids for the letting of certain British Rail services, the Director of Passenger Rail Franchising had not acted unlawfully in issuing passenger service requirements which provided for minimum service frequencies below those currently provided.

Mr Justice Macpherson of Cluny so held in the Queen's Bench Division when dismissing two applications for judicial review, (i) by Save Our Railways, Richard Delahoy, Southend-on-Sea Railway Travellers Association, Frederick Donald Allen, Gordon James, Alex Wilks, Philip Foggitt and John Antell and (ii) by Save Our Railways, Mark Stanley Walker, Graham Richard Larkbey, Peter Fox and Keith Patrick Bill, of the decisions of the Director of Passenger Rail Franchising on May 16 and September 14 to issue passenger service requirements in relation to rail services provided respectively by (i) Great Western Trains Co Ltd, South West Trains Ltd and London Tilbury and Southend Rail Ltd and (ii) Inter City East Coast Ltd, Gatwick Express Ltd, Midland Main Line Ltd and Network South Central under the Railways Act 1993.

In preparing the passenger services for privatisation the director was charged with fixing the minimum level of service required by way of the passenger service requirements.

To assist the director in preparing networks for selling off and choosing franchisees the Secretary of State for Transport issued a document on March 22, 1994 entitled *Objectives, Instructions and Guidance for the Franchising Director* which stated, inter alia, that in the initial letting of franchises the specification of minimum service levels for railway passenger service were to be based upon those being provided by British Rail immediately prior to franchising.

The applicants submitted, inter alia, that the instructions should not be read to permit major reductions in levels of service.

To do so would be inconsistent with what had been said in Parliament and was unreasonable and unlawful amounting to a breach of duty and trespass outside the discretion given to the director under the 1993 Act and the *Objectives, Instructions and Guidance*.

Mr Nigel Pleming, QC and Mr Owen Davies for the applicants; Mr Jeremy Sullivan, QC and Mr Jonathan Richard McManus for the respondent.

MR JUSTICE MACPHERSON said that the meaning of "based upon" had to be looked at in the context of the full *Objectives, Instructions and Guidance*.

That document included references to a service providing good value for money, freedom to respond to passenger demands, flexibility and non-ossification.

Accepting that the director had by statute an independent role and was not an agent of the secretary of state, his Lordship said that the director's important discretionary powers, as well as his duties under the 1993 Act, in relation to franchise agreements were complicated and difficult to perform in an atmosphere of conflict. His Lordship's powers were limited to law and breaches of the law.

Nothing said in Parliament could give rise to a contractual or otherwise enforceable guarantee. It was only the instructions and director's activities that were under scrutiny.

His Lordship was unable to accept that the director had to produce, beyond fine tuning, a virtual mirror-image of the present British Rail timetable. If the secretary of state had wished to see a repetition then he could have said so.

The tone and intention of the *Objectives, Instructions and Guidance* was to flexibility and development. The secretary of state had given no rigid instruction.

Further, passenger service requirements were not timetables but the minimum service levels, set out in the context of objectives requiring the director to ensure value for money and flexibility.

However dislikeable the result, the evidence showed that the director had based himself upon the current timetable because he was enjoined to do so and it was right to appreciate that once it was accepted that there existed room for manoeuvre the extent of reduction was a matter for the director, only challengeable on *Wednesbury* ([1948] 1 KB 223) grounds of reasonableness.

There had been no breach of law or unlawful conduct. The evidence showed that there had been close cooperation between the director and the secretary of state.

Even though the director was an independent person, for at least a year he had worked with the secretary of state so that he knew of the director's approach. If it was thought that that approach was flawed then the secretary of state could and would have said so.

All the court could do if it had given a remedy would be to order that the director re-think the passenger transport requirements. Fresh instructions would be given allowing the director to implement what he required. Some might say that that was a moving of the goal posts but such was a matter for Parliament and not the courts.

His Lordship wondered whether the case had been an appropriate one to bring to court at all given that the secretary of state's *Objectives, Instructions and Guidance* was an internal document and not a statutory one. It covered a wide area and took many things into account.

It was difficult to conclude, when the secretary of state did not believe that the director had disobeyed his instructions, that unless the director had thrown the *Objectives, Instructions and Guidance* away and ignored it entirely the court could have intervened.

The present case was not one in which there had been a clear abuse of power and accordingly the applications would be dismissed.

Solicitors: Leigh Day & Co; Treasury Solicitor.

Mental handicap finding must be based on medical evidence

Regina v Ham

Before Lord Justice Swinton Thomas, Mr Justice Waterhouse and Mr Justice Harrison

[Judgment December 1]

An express finding based on medical evidence had to be made at trial as to whether or not a defendant was mentally handicapped at the time he was interviewed by the police.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so stated in a reserved judgment when allowing an appeal by Benjamin Ham against conviction on February 28, 1995 at Snaresbrook Crown Court (Judge Martineau) of two offences of burglary for which he was sentenced to concurrent probation orders for a period of 18 months.

Code C 11.14 of the *Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984 (s.66) Codes of Practice* (second edition (1991)) provides: "A juvenile or a person who is mentally disordered or mentally handicapped, whether suspected or not, must not be interviewed or asked to provide or sign a written statement in the absence of the appropriate adult. . ."

Mr Nigel Daniel, assigned by the Registrar for Criminal Appeals, for Mr Ham; Mr John D. Taylor for the Crown.

MR JUSTICE WATERHOUSE, giving the judgment of the court, said that it was important to refer to *R v Everett* cited in *R v Raghip* (*The Times* December 9, 1991) which underlined the importance of a finding in the present case as to whether or not Mr Ham was a mentally handicapped person.

That finding had to be based on medical evidence, applying the correct statutory test.

The interviewing detective was neither a medical witness nor an expert for that purpose and it was wholly inappropriate for the trial judge to rely upon suggested assumptions about the views of other police officers and a general practitioner.

Indeed, the inclusion of the words "whether suspected or not" after the words "mentally handicapped" in Code C 11.14 added further strength to that criticism.

Solicitors: Crown Prosecution Service, Headquarters.

Board has no duty to obtain evidence

Regina v Criminal Injuries Compensation Board, Ex parte Milton

There was no duty on the part of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board when hearing a case to obtain evidence on its own initiative.

Mr Justice Buxton so held in the Queen's Bench Division on November 30 when dismissing an application by Kathleen Theresa Milton for judicial review of the decision on July 14, 1994 of the board to refuse the applicant an award under the provisions of *Compensating victims of violent crime: Changes to the Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme 1993* (Cm 2434).

MR JUSTICE BUXTON said, applying the case of *R v Criminal Injuries Compensation Board, Ex parte Parsons* (unreported, January 17, 1990), that while the board had to appraise the applicant if it had material before it before relying upon it, that was different from a requirement to make inquiries of its own initiative. There was no duty on the board to look for evidence but it was for the applicant to take the initiative.

Jurisdiction for awarding costs when case is dropped

Regina v Dover Magistrates' Court, Ex parte Commissioner of Customs and Excise

Before Lord Justice Staughton and Mr Justice Rougier

[Judgment November 29]

An order for costs under section 52 of the Courts Act 1971 could be awarded only for a complaint which was not proceeded with and could not extend to other proceedings.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so stated when allowing an application for judicial review of a decision of Dover Justices to award costs against the Customs and Excise for certain proceedings under the Criminal Justice (International Co-operation) Act 1990.

The customs had seized £60,000 from a business traveller, Mr Henderson-Thynne, pursuant to section 25(1) of the 1990 Act. They had made a number of successful applications for detention under section 25 and an application for forfeiture under section 26 which they then did not pursue and the money was returned.

The justices ordered costs against the customs in respect of both the section 25 and section 26 applications. The customs questioned the jurisdiction to award payment of all costs.

Mr Mukul Chawla for Customs and Excise; Mr Patrick Chamberlayne for Mr Henderson-Thynne as interested party.

LORD JUSTICE STAUGHTON said that Mr Chamberlayne had sought to argue that an order under section 52 of the 1971 Act could cover costs not only in respect of a complaint not proceeded with, but also costs concerning earlier and connected complaints.

His Lordship said that the section could not extend to other proceedings for the following reasons:

1 In the present circumstances the costs of the detention application fell to be assessed under another statute. Section 64 of the Magistrates' Courts Act 1980 dealt with cases where a complaint had been heard and determined.

2 It was implicit in section 52 of the 1971 Act that what the court might award was the costs of the proceedings in question.

His Lordship could not accept that section 52 gave the justices carte blanche to award any other costs of any other matters whatsoever.

The justices had exceeded their powers in the present case but his Lordship said so with regret because of the potential for injustice.

If an innocent traveller carried more than £10,000, the maximum permitted under the 1990 Act, and the Customs and Excise took detention proceedings in which they succeeded but then later proceedings for forfeiture failed, justices ought at least to be entitled to consider whether it was just and reasonable for an innocent traveller to have his costs in the earlier detention proceedings.

That would be the case in civil litigation in the higher courts. That would be consistent with Mr Justice Schiemann's findings in *In re W (Drug Trafficking) (Restraint order: Costs) (The Times* October 13, 1994).

The case would be remitted to the justices for them to consider the section 26 proceedings and how much it would be just and reasonable to award.

Mr Justice Rougier agreed.

Solicitors: Solicitor Customs and Excise; Bradleys, Dover.

Statutory appeal preferred to judicial review

Regina v Special Educational Needs Tribunal, Ex parte South Glamorgan County Council

Before Lord Justice Rose, Lord Justice Millett and Lord Justice Thorpe

[Judgment November 30]

A challenge to a decision of the Special Educational Needs Tribunal should be by appeal under Order 55 of the Rules of the Supreme Court rather than by way of judicial review.

The Court of Appeal so held, allowing an appeal by the Special Educational Needs Tribunal against the refusal of Mr Justice *Turner in the Queen's Bench* Division on November 3 to set aside his order of October 25 giving South Glamorgan County Council leave to move for judicial review of the tribunal's decision to amend a statement of special educational needs made pursuant to section 168 of the Education Act 1993 in relation to L, a child.

Section 182 of the 1993 Act and section 11(1) of the Tribunals and Inquiries Act 1992 provide that an appeal against a decision of the Special Educational Needs Tribunal lies to the High Court.

Ms Nathalie Lieven for the tribunal; Mr Malcolm Bishop, QC, for the council; Ms Deborah Hay for L.

LORD JUSTICE ROSE said that at the ex parte hearing of the council's application the judge had had before him a letter from the Treasury Solicitor drawing attention to two decisions at first instance, *S v Special Educational Needs Tribunal* (*The Times* October 5, 1995; [1995] 1 WLR 1627) and *R v Special Educational Needs Tribunal, Ex parte F* (unreported, October 11, 1995).

In the light of those decisions, the letter had suggested that the correct route for challenging the tribunal's decision was by way of appeal under Order 55 rather than by way of judicial review under Order 53. However, the judge had granted the council leave to move for judicial review.

The tribunal drew attention to the provisions of Order 55, in particular rule 3(1) which provided that the appeal should be by way of rehearing, to the court's powers under rule 7(2) to receive further evidence and make directions for oral evidence and affidavits, and to the court's ability under rule 7(5) to make any order which ought to have been made by the tribunal.

The tribunal submitted that those provisions, in so far as they differed from the powers conferred by Order 53, were significantly wider.

The House of Lords had dealt with the question fundamental to the appeal in *R v Inland Revenue Commissioners, Ex parte Preston* ([1985] AC 835, 862) where Lord Templeman had said: "Judicial review process should not be allowed to supplant the normal statutory appeal procedure."

In his Lordship's judgment that succinctly explained why the judge had been plainly wrong to grant leave to move for judicial review.

Lord Justice Millett and Lord Justice Thorpe gave concurring judgments.

Solicitors: Treasury Solicitor; Ms Dianne Bevan, Cardiff; A. E. Smith & Son, Stroud.

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LEGAL NOTICES

EAST LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY

The East London Waste Authority ("ELWA") is a statutory waste disposal authority serving the four London Boroughs of Barking and Dagenham, Havering, Newham and Redbridge, with a population of over 1 million people. Its current waste disposal arrangements involve a number of contracts, primarily for landfill, and a transport fleet based on a refuse transfer station site (owned by ELWA) close to the A406 and the A13 trunk roads. In view of the need to make long-term arrangements, ELWA is reviewing its long-term strategy for the treatment and disposal of up to 400,000 tonnes per annum of waste for a period of at least 20 years.

ELWA seeks expressions of interest from potential joint venture partners.

In particular, interested parties are requested to give details, in writing of:

(1.) Proposals for one or more of the following: Waste Minimisation, Recycling, Anaerobic Digestion/Composting, Combined Heat and Power and Landfill, and;

(2.) Outline of any development or technology required for such proposals;

(3.) Provision of "assets (e.g. land, equipment, funding, expertise) towards the above proposals, involving an advantageous marriage with ELWA's assets;

(4.) Any conditions or permissions required for the implementation of the above.

(5.) An outline of a possible joint venture arrangement.

The purpose of this advertisement is to invite potential partners for the long-term to give a preliminary indication of their interest and to contribute to the development of the Authority's detailed long-term waste management strategy.

This is not an offer of a contract or contracts; nor is it part of the formal tendering process under Schedule 2 to the Environmental Protection Act 1990 or under any EC derived legislation, which to the extent applicable will follow in due course. ELWA will not necessarily enter into a joint venture arrangement with any party.

This will not affect existing contracts.

If you have any queries concerning the above please contact John Wilson, ELWA Technical Manager, at Jenkins Lane Refuse Transfer Station, Jenkins Lane, Barking, London, IG11 0AD Tel: 0181 591 3834 or Fax: 0181-591-2469.

Please reply in writing to The Clerk, ELWA, Civic Centre, Dagenham by 31st January, 1996.

In the Hastings County Court
No. 101 of 1995
In Bankruptcy
re: Paul Edward Jeffs
residing at Cotways Farm,
Kent Street, Sedlescombe,
East Sussex, TN33 0SG.

Notice is hereby given that I, Stephen Treharne of KPMG Corporate Recovery, 1 Forest Gate, Brighton Road, Crawley, West Sussex RH11 9PT was appointed trustee in bankruptcy with effect from 28 November 1995 by the Secretary of State under the Insolvency Act 1986.

All creditors are hereby invited to prove their debts by sending details to me at my address as shown above by close of business on Friday 29 December 1995.

Dated 8 December 1995
Stephen Treharne
Trustee in Bankruptcy

FORTEX UK LIMITED
In Members' Voluntary Liquidation
Company Number 2728731

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Rules 4.182A and 11.2 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that the Liquidator of the above Company intends to make a distribution to the creditors. Creditors are required to submit full details of their claims and their names and addresses to the Liquidator, Philip W Wallace, EPMG, PO Box 700, 20 Farringdon Street, London EC4A 4PP on or before Friday 12 January 1996 which is the last day for proving claims. Notice is also given that the Liquidator proposes to make final distributions and that such distributions will be made without regard to any claims not made by the date mentioned.

Note: The Company is able to pay all its known creditors in full.

Dated 29 November 1995
P W Wallace - Liquidator

SUMMONS IN A CIVIL ACTION. UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT. DISTRICT OF ARIZONA. SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION, Plaintiff, vs. MICHAEL CUNNINGHAM, KEVIN P. CHAPMAN, ARTHUR TAYLOR, AND ROBERT URBINE, Defendants. Civil Action No CV-94-2001-PHX-EHC. To: KEVIN P. CHAPMAN, Venderers Lodge, Moonhill Lane, Beaulieu, Hampshire SO42 7YW, United Kingdom: YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and required to file with the Clerk of this Court and serve upon Plaintiff's attorney an answer to the complaint which is herewith served upon you within 20 days after service of this summons upon you, exclusive of the day of service. If you fail to do so, judgment by default will be taken against you for the relief demanded in the complaint. RICHARD H. WEARE, Clerk. July 24, 1995. United States District Court, 230 North First Avenue, Phoenix, Arizona 85025. A copy of the complaint may be obtained by contacting Plaintiff's attorney at the address or telephone number listed below. Plaintiff's attorney is: James A. Howell, Securities and Exchange Commission, 5670 Wilshire Boulevard, 11th Floor, Los Angeles, California 90036, telephone (213) 965-3877.

No. 007186 of 1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF EIDOS PLC
- and -
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on 20th November 1995 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the capital of the above named Company by £1,500,000. AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL on Wednesday the 20th day of December 1995. ANY Creditor or Shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose. A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same. DATED this 12th day of December 1995. MANCHES & CO, ALDWYCH HOUSE, 81 ALDWYCH, LONDON, WC2B 4RP. Tel: 0171 404 4433. Ref: C209

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA SOUTHERN DIVISION
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, Plaintiff,
v.
THE RESIDENCE AND REAL PROPERTY AT 39 BOLTON GARDENS, EARL'S COURT, LONDON SW5, and/or THE PROCEEDS REALIZED FROM THE SALE OF THE SAID PROPERTY, TOWIT: £325,000 (POUNDS STERLING), MORE OR LESS, Defendant
Civil Action No. 95-00473-CB-C
PUBLICATION ORDER

WHEREAS, the United States of America filed its Complaint for Forfeiture In Rem on June 12, 1995, with the United States District Court for the Southern District of Alabama against the Defendant Residence and Real Property at 39 Bolton Gardens, Earl's Court, London SW5, and/or the Proceeds Realized from the Sale of the Said Property, Towit, £325,000 (Pounds Sterling), more or less; WHEREAS, by virtue of the process in order to meet the requirements of the law in such matters, the United States of America, by and through, the United States Attorney General or Her Duly Authorized Representative has seized the Defendant Property, and has it in custody.

Notice is hereby given to all persons claiming the same or knowing or having anything to say why the same should not be condemned as forfeited to the use of the United States of America, pursuant to the prayer of said Complaint, that claim for said Defendant Property shall be filed with the United States District Court for the Southern District of Alabama, 113 St. Joseph Street, Mobile, Alabama 36602 (United States of America), with a copy sent thereto to Assistant United States Attorney Gloria A. Bedwell, 169 Dauphin Street, Suite 200, Mobile, Alabama 36602 (United States of America), within ten (10) days from the last date of publication or within such additional time as may be allowed by the Court, and that the answer to said Complaint for Forfeiture shall be filed within twenty (20) days from the date of the filing of the claim.

WITNESS my hand, this 31st day of October, 1995.
Marilyn Havens
DISTRICT DIRECTOR
UNITED STATES CUSTOMS SERVICE

No. 007368 of 1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
COMPANIES COURT
IN THE MATTER OF RAILTRACK GROUP PLC
and
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a petition was on Thursday 30th November 1995 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the reduction of the capital of the above-named Company from £800,050,000 to £80,000. AND NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard before Mr Registrar Buckley at the Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2LL, on Wednesday 20th December 1995.

ANY creditor or shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said reduction of capital should appear at the time of hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose.

A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

Dated 12 December 1995
Simmons & Simmons
21 Wilson Street
London EC2M 2TX
Ref: S/P05907/RHB/PXF
Solicitors for the above-named Company.

PUBLIC NOTICES

H.M. Land Registry
Lost certificates

It is proposed to issue a new certificate to replace the described below that is stated to have been lost or destroyed. Anyone possessing the missing certificate or objecting to the issue of a new one should at once notify The Swansea District Land Registry of Ty Civic Tawe, Phoenix Way, Llansamlet, Swansea, SA7 9FQ. Charge Certificate Freehold Title Number WA826691 - Land on the North side of Lake Road, Leeway Industrial Estate, Newport, Gwent. Proprietor of Charge, Rhone-Poulenc Chemicals Limited of Oak House, Reeds Crescent, Watford, Herts WD1 1QH.

LEGAL, PUBLIC, COMPANY & PARLIAMENTARY NOTICES
TO PLACE NOTICES FOR THIS SECTION PLEASE TELEPHONE
0171-782 7344 OR FAX: 0171-782 7827
Notices are subject to confirmation and should be received by 2.30pm two days prior to insertion.

COLLECT 30 TOKENS FOR A CHANCE TO WIN £20,000 FOR AN 80-DAY HOLIDAY



A Caribbean cruise to be won

The Times and *The Sunday Times*, are offering readers the chance to win one of 80 holidays for two, plus 10 per cent discounts, to a range of destinations throughout the world.

Today's holiday is a cruise to the Caribbean on board the Horizon, calling at San Juan, the Dominican Republic, Barbados, Martinique, Antigua and St Thomas. You will see a statue of Nelson in Bridgetown's Trafalgar Square, tropical rain forests, enchanting villages, the awesome volcano of St Pelee on Martinique, and enjoy some of the best sea bathing anywhere, from beaches such as Magen's Bay whose sands have been voted among the world's finest.

DEPARTURES: Jan 5, 12, 19 and 26, Feb 2, 9, 16 and 23, Mar 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, Apr 5, 12 and 19, Oct 18 and 25, Nov 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, Dec 13, 1996. The cost of today's holiday is from £1,034, down from £1,149 per person.

To win today's holiday, answer the question below and phone our competition hotline: 0891 40 50 34 open until midnight tonight. The winner will be chosen at random from all correct entries. Normal *Times* Newspapers competition rules apply.

Q. In which town is Nelson's statue?

Calls are charged at 39p per minute cheap rate and 48p at all other times.

THE TIMES Around the World in 80 Days £20,000 TOKEN 65

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هكذا من الأصل

Whelan on the way to encourage Atkinson

BY RUSSELL KEMPSON

SUDDENLY, optimism abounds at Coventry City. They have clawed their way off the bottom of the FA Carling Premiership courtesy of a startling 5-0 win over Blackburn Rovers, the champions, on Saturday, and yesterday completed the £2 million signing of Noel Whelan, the England Under-21 and Leeds United striker. Ron Atkinson, the Coventry manager, can almost sense salvation.

However, his attempts to persuade Chris Coleman, the Wales and Crystal Palace central defender, to join Whelan appeared to have fallen through last night. Coleman, who had spoken to Atkinson on Friday, travelled to Blackburn yesterday for talks with Ray Harford, the manager, and is believed to have been more impressed with the offer from Ewood Park.

Coleman, 25, who has been unsettled at Palace since the start of the season, was also being courted by Wimbledon and West Ham United, and Coventry had agreed a fee of £2.7 million in the confidence that the deal would go through. However, it is likely that Atkinson will miss out on breaking Coventry's transfer record for a second time in a week if Coleman passes his medical at Blackburn today.

Whelan, 22, had found it increasingly difficult to earn a regular place at Elland Road. He has started only six matches this season.

"The move was right for both clubs and it was right for my football," Whelan said. "It is difficult moving from Leeds and although Coventry are near the bottom they have not got bottom-of-the-table players. We will pull it around and stay up, I am sure of that."

Atkinson has juggled his squad more than any other Premiership manager this season, using 28 players in 17 League matches, but the arrival of Whelan does not necessarily mean an exodus from Highfield Road. "I've had one manager on the phone already asking if any of my players were available," Atkinson said. "I told him not to even think about it, and when he asked to be kept posted, I told him not to hold his breath."

The signing of Whelan comes against a contrasting backcloth of Coventry recently announcing debts of £9m; yet while the club's bank manager may be shedding a few tears, Atkinson remained as upbeat as he has been for months.

"Any transfer always has an element of doubt about it but we are more than confident about Noel."

Wolverhampton Wanderers were less forthcoming yesterday about any new prospective employees at Molineux but it is still expected that Mark McGhee, the former Leicester City manager, will take over within the next two days. Wolverhampton are believed to have held discussions with Leicester over compensation for McGhee's abrupt departure last week, along with Colin Lee and Mike Hickman, his assistants at Filbert Street.

Martin George, the Leicester chairman, has refused to accept the resignations and could seek legal redress if the matter is not sorted out swiftly and amicably. The Football League could also be drawn into the issue if the clubs fail to reach a settlement.

Wimbledon's plans for leaving Selhurst Park and seeking a new home elsewhere have received a setback. Sam Hamman, the Wimbledon chairman, has mooted Dublin and Cardiff as possible alternative venues for his club. However, while the hopes of switching to Dublin remain possible, if improbable, the Football Association of Wales (FAW) yesterday poured scorn on Wimbledon playing at the National Stadium in Cardiff. Brian Fear, the FAW president, said that he would appeal to Fifa, football's world governing body, to veto any attempt by Hamman to relocate in Wales.

Johansson prepares for highest office

David Miller talks to the Swedish administrator who may inherit João Havelange's crown

João Havelange, the 80-year-old president of Fifa, football's world governing body, has been quoted in France this week as saying that he would die being still president. Assuming he is in good health, that is unlikely. Lennart Johansson, a benign but obdurate Swede, is poised to be elected as his successor at the congress next July.

Havelange ousted Sir Stanley Rous in 1974 on a foundation of promises to expand Asia's and Africa's involvement in the World Cup, a promise he fulsomely delivered. Yet should he seek further to extend his 22-year reign, an alliance between Europe, Africa and Asia is destined to depose him.

The Fifa executive committee, meeting in Paris before today's draw for the qualifying competition of the 1998 World Cup, has already relented on four fundamental principles set down in the controversial administrative paper, *Vision I*, put forward by Uefa, the European governing body, which caused a furore when presented to Havelange in May. They are:

☐ That the executive must appoint the standing committees, such as finance, referees and discipline [as opposed to the president in person].

☐ That the executive must consist of executive members from the continental confederations (David Will, for example, the vice-president from Scotland, is not on Uefa's executive).

☐ That all decisions must be taken at executive meetings, not arbitrarily in between.

☐ That the World Cup finals be held on a rotating basis between continents, with a single candidate initially approved by the confederation.

However, the move that has driven the power into Johansson's lap is *Vision II*, the subsequent paper on World Cup financing. Money speaks and money equals power. Johansson is convinced, from marketing experience with the European Cup Champions' League, that the World Cup in 1994 was seriously undersold (in the United States!) and that competitive bidding can quadruple the revenue.

Within a month of this policy being grudgingly accepted by Fifa — in place of the previous closed-shop deals with preferred sponsors — an American conglomerate stepped forward with an offer of sponsorship for the finals in France in 1998 of $1 billion, a figure still far short of the income achieved by the International Olympic Committee to run the Olympic Games.

"We have been met with understanding," Johansson said from Paris yesterday. "The mood is calm and we have achieved agreement on important issues. The principle of World Cup rotation is accepted, but it remains to be decided when it is introduced and with which continent. It will save a lot of wasted expense on campaigns as by Japan and South Korea in the present bidding for 2002."

Johansson has abandoned *Vision I*'s proposal for a rotating presidency and has also stopped attempting to persuade Japan and South Korea to agree to a joint-hosting. "I'm not going to fight any more on their behalf," he said. The feeling is that Japan still holds the edge, through superiority of existing new stadia, for the decision to be taken by the 21-man Fifa executive in June.

Johansson, mild of manner, is a reluctant revolutionary, a man who dislikes confrontation. He did not want to be a candidate to succeed Havelange and only consented last month.

"I hate to be attacking Havelange," he said, "because he has done so much for so long, but when I am accused of 'fighting Fifa', it is necessary to remember that we, the confederations, *are* Fifa. We have ideas for development. Some people talk of revolution: we talk of evolution.

"The European confederation (Uefa) has 49 members and we have presented our concept. We do not ask for favours. As leaders, we have responsibility to the game. Ultimately, we have to ask if we want to belong to Fifa if they don't like democracy?"

Therein lies the scorpion's sting from which Havelange has no protection. Europe, with seven of the eight quarter-finalists in 1994, represents 80 per cent of the wealth of Fifa. Were Uefa to withdraw from it, Fifa would be a relatively empty shell, devoid of power.

Even now, having potentially accepted the mantle of

'Ultimately, we have to ask if we want to belong to Fifa if they don't like democracy?'

renaissance-man, Johansson does not hanker for prestige, which of course further strengthens his qualification. "I've always preached for bringing in a new generation," he said. "I'll stand if there's no-one else, but if there's a Beckenbauer, say, who could not only do the job but get the votes, I'll step aside."

Here is a man determined that the organisation of the world's foremost game should be conducted on a rational basis, protecting the game, the players and the spectators. He believes, for example, that the hosting of the World Cup finals should not be determined by political power but on the findings in the report, to be published later this month, of the three-man inspection committee that includes Ernie Walker, of Scotland, the expert on security matters. A Fifa administration run by Johansson would be low on emotion, strong on commonsense and consistently dignified.



BEN RADFORD/ALLSPORT

Johansson has been edging closer to Fifa's premier position during talks in Paris

SPORT IN BRIEF

Leopards provide incentive for Palace

CRYSTAL Palace's reward for springing the surprise of basketball's National Cup on Saturday is an attractive home tie next month against the Leopards.

After their elimination of Doncaster Panthers in the fourth round, Palace will be even more eager to win their quarter-final, as it was the formation of Harvey Goldsmith's Leopards at the beginning of last season and the presence of another club in the capital, London Towers, that probably kept Palace out of the Budweiser League this season.

Whatever the other reasons put forward in the summer by Mike Smith, the league's chief executive, for Palace's third successive failure to gain promotion after winning the first division, it was felt that the main argument against them was doubts about London's capacity to support three Budweiser League clubs.

DRAW: January 17 Thames Valley Tigers v London Towers; Sheffield Sharks v Manchester Giants. January 24 Crystal Palace v Leopards; Hemel Hempstead Royals v Birmingham Bullets.

Dual nationals

Table tennis: The English Table Tennis Association presents two internationals at the same venue for the first time tonight. At the Hastings Sports Centre, the England women's team take on Germany in the semi-finals of the European Superleague, while the men's team play the same country only a few yards away in a tussle to avoid relegation.

England struggle

Cricket: The England women's team, 1-0 up in the series, were dismissed for 98 on the second day of the final "Test" in Hyderabad yesterday. Replying to India's first-innings total of 184, only four England batsmen reached double figures.

Docherty's chance

Boxing: Drew Docherty, the British bantamweight champion, will challenge Daniel Jimenez, of Puerto Rico, for the World Boxing Organisation super-bantamweight title on January 20. The venue has yet to be decided.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

BY ROBERT SHEEHAN, BRIDGE CORRESPONDENT

This is a hand from an amusing book, *Contract Killers* by Phillip and Robert King (Batsford, £8.99). It contains parodies of *The Godfather*, *Gone With the Wind*, and Agatha Christie's *Cards on the Table*. In the following Christie episode, Hastings describes how Poirot arranges a bridge party to solve a murder that could only have been committed by an expert player. The caddish Major Ransome is a prime suspect.

Dealer West — Game all — Rubber bridge

	♠4 3 2 ♥K Q J 9 8 ♦1 0 7 2 ♣4 2	
♠A 10 9 7 6 5 ♥1 0 4 ♦8 ♣9 8 7 3	N W E S	♠— ♥A 7 6 5 2 ♦A Q 6 5 4 ♣Q 10 6
	♠K Q J 8 ♥3 ♦K J 9 3 ♣A K J 5	

W	N	E	S
Mrs Bravington	Miss Vavesour	Dr McTavish	Major Ransome
3 S	Pass	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Double	All Pass

Contract: 3 NT Doubled by South — Lead: Ten of Spades

This is Hastings's narrative: The Major won the spade lead in hand and played on hearts. McTavish won the second heart and exited with a low club. Ransome finessed successfully and cashed the ace and king of clubs.

At this point, I could not see how he could reach dummy's winning hearts, but he cleverly advanced the nine of diamonds, overtaking with dummy's ten. McTavish was forced to capture, but now any lead would create an entry to the table.

"I had a perfect count of the hand," Ransome drawled. To create an entry to dummy, I needed Mrs Bravington's singleton diamond to be the eight. Leading the nine was a routine unblock.

"Well Poirot," I whispered. "Have you solved the case?" "Of course, Hastings," he replied smugly. "Have you?" "I sometimes wonder how I resist the impulse to strangle you," I chuckled.

He thought for a moment. "Probably because without me you would never deduce the identity of the strangler."'

☐ The Gold Cup has been won by the holders, D Patterson's team (G Tredinnick, S Tredinnick, N Rosen, P King, P Collins). In a close final, they beat A Mould's team (G Hyett, P Bowyer, J Helme, R Bentley, J Mason) by 113-93 IMP's.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

BY RAYMOND KEENE, CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Briton leads

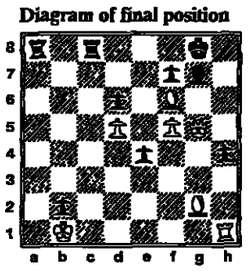
Jonathan Rowson, the British Chess Federation representative in the junior world championship that is in progress in Guarapuava, Brazil, shares the lead after nine rounds. The leading scores are: Rowson (England) and Kempinski (Poland) 7, Kobalija (Russia) and Socko (Poland) 6.5. In the seventh round, Rowson won the following complicated game.

White: Rowson
Black: Kaminski
World boys under-18s
Guarapuava, Brazil
December 1995

Sicilian Defence

1	e4	c5
2	Nf3	d6
3	d4	cxd4
4	Nxd4	Nf6
5	Nc3	a6
6	f4	g6
7	Be2	Nbd7
8	g4	h6
9	Nb3	b5
10	Be3	Bb7
11	Bf3	e5
12	Qe2	Bg7
13	0-0-0	b4
14	Nd5	Nxd5
15	exd5	0-0
16	f5	e4
17	Bg2	a5
18	Kb1	a4
19	Nd4	b3
20	Nc6	bxa2+
21	Kxa2	Qc7
22	Bd4	Nf6
23	c4	g5
24	h4	gxh4
25	g5	hxg5
26	Qe3	Bxc6
27	Qxg5	Bxd5
28	cxd5	a3
29	b3	Qc2+
30	Ka1	Rfc8
31	Rd2	Qxb3
32	Bxd6	Qb2+
33	Rxb2	axb2+
34	Kb1	Black resigns

Diagram of final position



Man v Machine

Garry Kasparov, the world chess champion, is in London this week to contest a match against the world computer champion, Fritz3.1. The match, consisting of two speed games, lasting 50 minutes each, will take place tomorrow, Wednesday, December 13, commencing at 3pm. The venue will be the Conference Forum, Sedgwick Centre, London, E1. To apply for tickets ring 0171-388 2404.

Times chess book

Improve your game with Ray Keene's book, *The Times Winning Chess*, published by Batsford at £9.99 (credit card orders 01376 327901).

☐ Raymond Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

BOMBILATE
a. Shaped like a bomb
b. To hum or buzz
c. Umbeliferous

MANDUCATE
a. To chew over
b. To teach PE
c. The IoM ducal court

BAVARDAGE
a. Cider pulp
b. Idle chat
c. A Bruges bargee

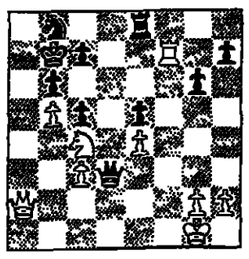
PLENILUNARY
a. Having full authority
b. Night-blooming
c. At full moon

Answers on page 46

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Schnjanowski — Porgebinski, Kiev, 1955. Can you see how White broke into his opponent's position to deliver a quick checkmate?



Solution on page 46

FOR THE RECORD

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Indiana 111 LA Clippers 104; New York 118 San Antonio 112 (2-OT); Atlanta 108 Boston 103; Toronto 93 Vancouver 81; Sacramento 110 Miami 90; LA Lakers 87 Detroit 82; Portland 103 Houston 101 (2-OT).
NATIONAL CUP: Fourth round: Sheffield Sharks 71 Chester Jets 40; Newcastle Comets 107 Manchester Giants 121.

BIATHLON

OSTERSUND, Sweden: World Cup: Men: 4 x 7.5km relay: 1, Russia (V Malgurov, V Dratlev, P Mouslimov, A Kobelev) 1hr 27min 43.3sec (0 misses); 2, Germany (R Gross, M Kirchner, F Luck, S Fischer), 1:29.27.2 (2); 3, Austria (H Oberlacher, W Perner, R Neuner, L Gredler), 1:29.57.8 (1).

CRICKET

First Test match

Australia v Sri Lanka

PERTH (fourth day of five): Australia beat Sri Lanka by an innings and 36 runs

SRI LANKA: First Innings 251 (R S Kaluwitharana 50; G D McGrath 4-81)

Second Innings

R S Mahanama b McGrath	48
U Hathurusingha c Healy b McGrath	11
A P Gurusinghe c Healy b McDermott	7
P A de Silva c Ponting b Warne	20
*A Ranatunga b McGrath	46
H P Tillekeratne c Ponting b Warne	119
†R Kaluwitharana c Ponting b Julian	40
H D P Dharmasena lbw McDermott	18
W P U J C Vaas c Healy b Warne	4
G P Wickramasinghe c Warne b McDermott	0
M Muralitharan not out	3
Extras (lb 4, nb 10)	14
Total	330

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-35, 2-58, 3-87, 4-105, 5-183, 6-258, 7-310, 8-318, 9-319.
BOWLING: McGrath 24-7-86-3, McDermott 20-3-73-3; Warne 29.4-6-96-3; Julian 13-4-40-1; M Waugh 4-0-22-0; Law 3-1-9-0.

AUSTRALIA: First Innings 617 for dec (M J Slater 219, M E Waugh 111, M A Taylor 96, R T Ponting 96, S G Law 54 not out).
Umpires: Khizar Hayat (Pakistan) and P Parker (Australia).

Test match

New Zealand v Pakistan

CHRISTCHURCH (fourth day of five): New Zealand, with three second-innings wickets in hand, need 198 runs to beat Pakistan

PAKISTAN: First Innings 208 (Aamir Sohail 88, Ramiz Raja 54; C L Cairns 4-51).

Second Innings

Aamir Sohail b Patel	30
Ramiz Raja lbw b Morrison	62
Ijaz Ahmed c Germon b Nash	103
Inzamam-ul-Haq c Fleming b Nash	82
Salim Malik c Germon b Morrison	21
Basit Ali lbw b Cairns	6
†Rashid Latif c Germon b Cairns	39
*Wasim Akram c Fleming b Cairns	19
Mushtaq Ahmed C Germon b Larsen	24
Waqar Younis lbw Larsen	34
Ata-Ur-Rehman not out	0
Extras (5b, 5nb, 6lb, 4w)	20
Total	434

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-55, 2-195, 3-224, 4-260, 5-265, 6-339, 7-363, 8-384, 9-425.
BOWLING: Morrison 27-5-99-2, Nash 30-6-91-2; Cairns 35-6-114-3; Patel 24-8-61-1; Larsen 29-10-58-2.

NEW ZEALAND: First Innings 286 (C L Cairns 76, R G Twose 59; Wasim Akram 5-53)

Second Innings

B A Young c Latif b Mushtaq	18
C J Spearman c Sohail b Mushtaq	33
A C Parore lbw b Mushtaq	5
S P Fleming lbw b Rehman	0
R G Twose not out	44
C L Cairns c Malik b Mushtaq	8
*†L K Germon run out	12
D N Patel b Mushtaq	15
G R Larsen not out	8
Extras (lb 7, w 1, nb 4, b 3)	15
Total (7 wkts)	158

D J Nash and D K Morrison to bat.
FALL OF WICKETS: 1-50, 2-57, 3-50, 4-60, 5-75, 6-101, 7-131.
BOWLING: Akram 11-3-31-0; Younis 19-4-51-0; Mushtaq 27-10-43-5; Rehman 9-1-23-1.
Umpires: S Dunne (New Zealand) and B C Cooray (Sri Lanka).

FOOTBALL

FRENCH LEAGUE: Strasbourg 1 Lens 2. Standings: 1, Paris Saint-Germain, 45pts; 2, Lens, 39, 3, Auxerre, 35; 4, Metz, 35.
ITALIAN LEAGUE: AC Milan 0 Napoli 0.
PORTUGUESE LEAGUE: Salgueiros 0 Porto 4; Maritimo 2 Boavista 0. Standings: 1, Porto, 35pts; 2, Sporting, 30; 3, Benfica, 27; 4, Boavista, 26.
SPANISH LEAGUE: Tenerife 3 Athletic Bilbao 2; Albacete 3 Salamanca 3; Real Sociedad 0 Compostela 1, Sporting Gijon 2 Real Betis 3; Sevilla 1 Real Oviedo 1; Celta Vigo 2 Rayo Vallecano 0; Deportivo Coruna 2 Real Zaragoza 3; Valladolid 1 Merida 1; Espanol 3 Real Madrid 1. Standings: 1, Atletico Madrid 36pts, 2, Espanol 34; 3, Barcelona 32; 4, Compostela 30; 5, Real Betis 28.
ARGENTINIAN LEAGUE: River 3 Colon 2; Estudiantes 2 Boca 1; Velez 2 Belgrano 0; Racing 2 Gimnasia La Plata 0; Banfield 2 San Lorenzo 5; Deportivo Espanol 3 Newell's 3; Platense 2 Independiente 2.
BRAZILIAN LEAGUE: Semi-finals, second leg: Botafogo 0 Cruzeiro 0 (1-1 on agg; *Botafogo win on better overall record in the competition*); Santos 5 Fluminense 2 (6-5 on agg; *Santos win on better overall record*).
FA CARLSBERG VASE: Fourth round draws: North Ferriby v Arnsby Nomads; Lye v Barwell; Clitheroe v Willenhall; Trafford v Selby; Flixton v Dunston FB; Durham City v Belper; Brigg v Bedlington; Burgess Hill v Collier Row; Windsor and Eton v Peacehaven and Telscombe; Slade Green or Diss v Banstead; Chichester v Thamesmead or Brentwood; Wivenhoe or Edgware v Tilbury or Aveley; Paulton Rovers v Hungerford or Mangotsfield; Canvey Island v Gorleston; Raunds or Fumess v Taunton; Lymington v Torpoint.
Matches to be played on January 13

HOCKEY

YORKSHIRE CUP: Quarter-final: Ben Rhydding 1 Hull 2. Semi-final: Doncaster 3 Sheffield Bankers 1.
WELSH WOMEN'S CUP: Second Round: Chepstow 0 Colwyn Bay 6; Llanelli 5 Bow Street 2; Llanfair 1 Haverfordwest 2; Newtown 5 Cwmtawe 0; Ruthin 1 Cardiff Inst 2; St Fagans 0 Swansea 7. Postponed: Cardiff Ath v Buckley

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): NY Islanders 6 Philadelphia 2; Washington 6 Winnipeg 1; Chicago 4 Hartford 1; Edmonton 3 Anaheim 1. Postponed: Buffalo v Tampa Bay.
BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Cardiff 13 Newcastle 3; Humberside 6 Slough 4; Nottingham 9 Milton Keynes 7; Sheffield 5 Durham 4. First division: Billingham 9 Paisley 14; Blackburn 6 Telford 10; Bracknell 8 Manchester 9; Dumfries 4 Chelmsford 0; Guildford 12 Murrayfield 0; Peterborough 6 Medway 4; Solihull 6 Swindon 12.

MOTOR RALLYING

SCORPION RALLY (Staffordshire): 1, D Evans (Peugeot 205) 5min 25sec; 2, M Turner (Toyota Corolla) 6:09; 3, D Jones (Talbot Sunbeam) 8:35.
WITCHES BREW RALLY (Central Wales): 1, G Jones (Cooper S) 8:53, 2, P Loveridge (Mini 1275) 9:24; 3, I Meakin (Saab 96) 18:03.

RUGBY UNION

FRENCH CHAMPIONSHIP: Pool one: Grenoble 19 Toulouse 13; Racing 12 Nice 9; Agen 17 Toulon 3; Narbonne 37 Bayonne 15. Perpignan 40 Nimes 0. Pool two: Colomiers 23 Montferrand 20; Dax 26 Brive 30; Montpellier 3 Castres 18; Pau 14 Bourgoin 8; Rumilly 21 Begles-Bordeaux 13.
ITALIAN CHAMPIONSHIP: Calvisano 29 L'Aquila 12; Calvisano 30 Milan 42; San Dona 24 Mirano 11; Piacenza 16 Padova 11; Roma 22 Rovigo 17; Livorno 22 Treviso 53.

SQUASH

BOMBAY: Mahindra International Challenge: Semi-finals: C Walker (Eng) bt R Eyles (Aus) 17-16, 15-5, 11-15, 5-15, 15-12; P Nicol (Scot) bt B Martin (Aus) 15-8, 15-7, 15-9.

TENNIS

DUBLIN: European men's team championship: First division (white group): Great Britain bt Israel 2-0 (GB names first:) T Henman bt N Behr 6-2, 6-1, G Rusedski bt E Ran 6-2, 6-2.

	P	W	L	F	A	Pts
Great Britain	3	3	0	8	0	3
Israel	3	2	1	5	3	2
Slovenia	3	1	2	3	6	1
Ireland	3	0	3	1	8	0

TODAY'S FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

International match
England v Portugal (at Wembley, 8.0)

FA Cup
Second round replays
Darlington v Rochdale (7.45)
Gravesend and Northfl. v Cinderford T (7.45) ... P
Shrewsbury v Scunthorpe
Walsall v Torquay (7.45)
Woking v Enfield (at Wycombe Wanderers FC, 7.45)

Vauxhall Conference
Welling v Farnborough (7.45)

Bell's Scottish League
First division
Clydebank v Airdrie

Tennents Scottish Cup
First round
Stenhousemuir v Arbroath

BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Cambridge City v Sudbury Tn; Rushden and Diamonds v Gloucester. Midland division: Redditch v Bilston. Dr Martens Cup: Second round: Atherstone v Nuneaton, Baldock v Margate; Tonbridge Angels v Fisher 93. Second round replay: Moor Green v Bridgenorth.
ICIS LEAGUE: First division: Barton Rovers v Thame; Wembley v Maidenhead United. Third division: Horsham v Aveley. Carlton Trophy: Second round: Bracknell v Harefield. Carlton Cup: Grays v Billericay; Oxford City v Basingstoke. Guardian Insurance Cup: Third round: Bedford T v Wokingham; Heybridge Swifts v Dulwich Hamlet; Hitchin v Bishop's Stortford.
UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Fridley v Matlock. Unifilla first division Cup: Second round: Gretna v Whitley Bay; Lancaster v Farsley Celtic; Lincoln United v Alfreton; Radcliffe v Great Harwood; Warrington v Atherton LR; Workington v Netherfield; Worksop v Harrogate Town.
FA CARLSBERG VASE: Third round: Wivenhoe v Edgware. Third round replay: Mangotsfield v Hungerford.
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Arsenal v Oxford Utd (3.0); Portsmouth v Bristol City (7.0); Queens Park Rangers v West Ham (at Harrow Borough, 7.0); Watford v Crystal Palace (2.0). Second division: Plymouth v Cardiff (2.0).
PONTINS CENTRAL LEAGUE: First division: Derby v Wolverhampton (7.0) Second division: Coventry v Manchester City (7.0); Rotherham v Aston Villa (7.0).
LEAGUE OF WALES: Bangor City v Connah's Quay; Barry v Tori Penre; Flint Town v Porthmadog; Newtown v Conwy; Rhyl v Holywell.
GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Odd Down v Tiverton.
INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE: Boldmere St M v Kynpersley V.
FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Chester-le-Street v Bedlington Terriers; Tow Law v Shildon.
SUN LIFE GOLD CUP: Semi-final: Omagh v Crusaders.
NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Eastwood H v Flixton.
BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Stourport S v Wednesfield; Walsall Wood v Walsall V. League Cup: Second round: Tividale v Wolverhampton Cas.
JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Haverhill v Wisbech; Newmarket v Diss.
JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Aerostructures v Andover; Bournemouth v Ryde Sports.
NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE CUP: Second round replay: Borrowash Vic v Ossett Town. Third round: Belper Town v Worsbrough Bridge, Goole v Arnold, Thackley v Glasshoughton Wel.
WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Chatham v Thamesmead; Folkestone Invicta v Herne Bay; Whitstable v Tunbridge Wells.

RUGBY UNION

Kick-off 7.0 unless stated

CIS tour match
England A v Western Samoans (at Gateshead)

University match
Oxford v Cambridge (at Twickenham, 2.30)

Heineken Cup
Pool A
Toulouse v Benetton Treviso

Under-21 International
England v Scotland (at Gateshead, 5.0)

CIS county championship
North
Lancashire v Cheshire (at Liverpool St Helens, 7.15)

Heineken League
First division
Swansea v Llanelli

Club matches
Pontypool v Ebbw Vale
South Wales Police v Mountain Ash

RUGBY LEAGUE

TOUR MATCH: Yorkshire under-18 v Australian Schoolboys (Featherstone, 7.30).

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: 7-Up Trophy: Semi-final, first leg: London v Birmingham (8.0)
TABLE TENNIS: European League men's and women's internationals: England v Germany (Hastings).

THE TIMES
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Welsh pioneer code-breaking

Aberavon prepare to add league to their portfolio

BY CHRISTOPHER IRVINE

BY MARCH, Aberavon might be playing both codes of rugby. The struggling Heineken League first division rugby union club is considering an application to the Rugby Football League (RFL) for a second division side in the new, summer Super League.

The idea, enthusiastically received, has come from Mike Nicholas, the manager of the Wales rugby league team and a former Aberavon player, who believes that both sports will benefit from such a move. "Financial and playing benefits will accrue for players switching codes either way in the new climate," he said.

Nicholas's first concerns are getting a league team established as a forerunner to a South Wales-based Super League side by 1997, plus a more secure future for the national team. According to Nicholas, this is at grave risk, with other dual Wales international players, including Paul Moriarty, David Young and John Devereux, possibly following the route back to union taken last month by Jonathan Davies.

After the rejection by Warrington of a short-term return there, Kevin Ellis is also looking at an interim move back to union before taking up a contract next year with the Australian Rugby League. Alternatively, a move home by the Wales scrum half to a new club playing league might appeal, as it would to a number of players who do not necessarily want to go back to Wales to play union.

Any application by Aberavon for the 1996 season would be viewed sympathetically by the RFL, which has partially funded offices in Cardiff, where Nicholas has begun a recruitment drive after Wales's recent success in reaching the World Cup semi-finals and winning the European championship in March.

It is ten years since the demise of Bridgend, originally launched as Cardiff City in 1981. "The game's popular appeal is far stronger now," Nicholas said. "Rugby league fans are now out of the closet in their thousands, as the World Cup showed. It is important we tap that enthusiasm and an alliance with a union club seems the obvious way forward."

With rugby league's switch to summer, the notion of the all-year-round rugby professional is gaining credence. Iestyn Harris, the Warrington and Wales back, has raised the possibility of playing league in summer and union in winter, although player contracts in Wales are expected to preclude appearances outside of union competition.

"It is because of that that we must strike quickly," Nicholas said. "The situation in union in Wales is nowhere near as secure as some players possibly think, whereas league has the £87 million for Super League and the television deal in place.

"It is OK to have development officers. Working up from the grassroots is vitally important, but there must be something to aspire to. Franchising is the way many sports appear to be going and rugby league cannot honestly move towards being a national sport without a strong and vibrant Welsh presence."

Aberavon players could form part of the new league side. The next stage of Nicholas's plan is the side's absorption into a Super League outfit in 16 months' time. Newcastle are favourites to fill the other probable vacancy in an expanded, 14-team Super League in 1997.

Luck of draw deserts Leeds for semi-final

THE luck of Leeds, who have uncannily received ten home draws in their past 11 cup ties, ran out yesterday when they were handed a Regal Trophy semi-final at Wigan on January 6 (Christopher Irvine writes).

Since raising themselves to beat Wigan in the championship five weeks ago, the form of the Yorkshire side has gone haywire. The holders scraped home at Widnes, but it is nearly two years since Wigan last lost to domestic opposition at Central Park.

They will be keen to make the most of the home advantage as they attempt to reach the final for the fourth successive year.

However, Hugh McGahan, the assistant coach at Leeds, was putting on a brave face after the draw yesterday. "We are looking forward to it and want to try and show the game we played here was not a fluke," he said. "Home advantage would have been ideal but it does not bother us at all that we must play them over there."

In the first semi-final, on December 30, Warrington, beaten finalists last season, make the short trip to St Helens, whom they outpointed at home in September. However, Knowsley Road has become something of a fortress lately.

☐ Andy Farrell, the Wigan and England loose forward, is to undergo a groin operation and will miss the remainder of the season.

SEMI-FINAL DRAW: St Helens v Warrington (December 30), Wigan v Leeds (January 6).

Higgins banishes self-doubt

BY PHIL YATES

JOHN HIGGINS was a relieved man yesterday after securing the inaugural German Open snooker title on Sunday night, admitting he had been fearful that he might not sustain the remarkably successful start he has made to his career.

"This is a big relief," he said. "I lay in my bed at night during the summer praying I wouldn't be a one-hit wonder. I can relax on that score now, but that doesn't mean I'll cut my work rate. I am aware it's much easier to fall down the rankings than it is to climb them."

For Higgins, the provisional world-ranked No 2 behind Stephen Hendry, his Scottish compatriot, victory in Frankfurt marked his seventh appearance in a final during 1995. A 9-3 victory over Ken Doherty secured a fourth world-ranking event success in 14 months.

He collected a first prize of £40,000 in addition to £5,000 for compiling the highest break of the televised phase of the tournament, a 139 clearance during the eleventh frame. Ironically, the previous best, 127, had been held by Doherty. Higgins, 20, carried his total prize-money to £112,200 for the 1995-96 campaign.



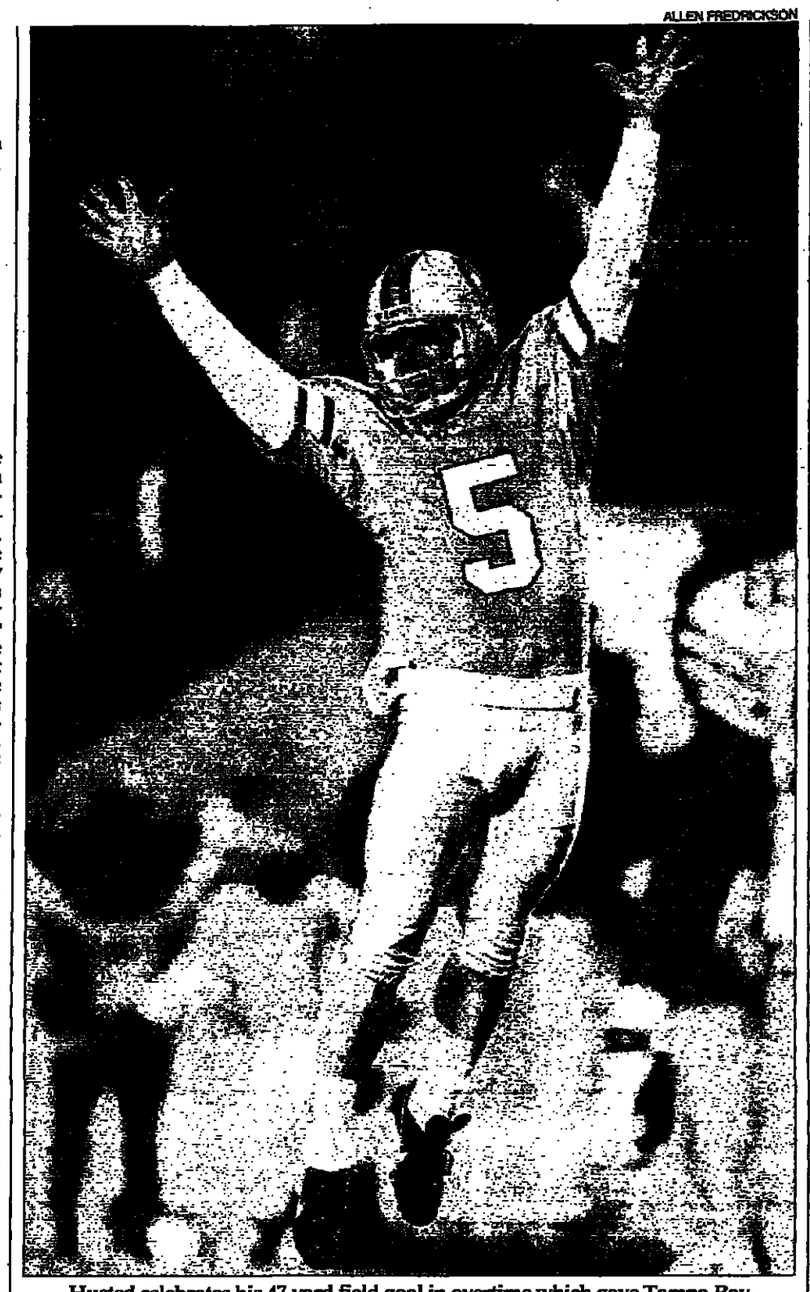
Higgins: fourth success

"I never expected to win here; I didn't think I was playing well enough," he said. "I had also just lost 9-1 to Stephen [Hendry] in the UK Championship semi-finals when I arrived in Frankfurt. But I played a lot better and punished Ken for mistakes he seldom makes."

Higgins led 5-3 after the first session but, largely as a result of missing a short-range red in the ninth frame and a simple black off its spot in the tenth, Doherty fell 7-3 behind. The Irishman, a surprise semi-final conqueror of Hendry on Saturday, could not recover.

FINAL: J Higgins (Scot) bt K Doherty (Ire) 9-3. Frame scores (Higgins first) 16-106, 112-0, 97-0, 64-50, 8-58, 45-80, 66-0, 73-19, 77-42, 90-39, 143-0, 82-55

ALLEN FREDRICKSON



Husted celebrates his 47-yard field goal in overtime which gave Tampa Bay an upset victory over Green Bay, leaders of the NFC central division

Smith's charges repulsed

BY STUART JONES

WITH a couple of minutes remaining, Barry Switzer decided to gamble. Although his Dallas Cowboys were only 29 yards from their own line and facing into the wind, he decided that they might as well attempt to break the deadlock with the Philadelphia Eagles.

Needing one yard to gain a first down and maintain their impetus, the ball was handed to Emmitt Smith, the National Football League's leading rusher. He was stopped short but, before the vain attempt, the whistle had blown to signify one of the game's many stoppages, the two-minute warning.

Switzer, given a reprieve, considered the options and chose to execute the same ploy. Smith, as compact as a bulldozer, charged into the wall built by the Eagles defence for a second time but was repelled again and the Cowboys subsequently yielded more than mere possession.

They lost not only the game. Gary Anderson kicking the decisive field goal for the Eagles with 86 seconds left, but also potentially a huge advantage. The team with the best record in each conference automatically earns the right to stay at home throughout the play-offs.

The Cowboys have long been the leaders in the National conference but they have been caught by the San Francisco 49ers. Both teams have won 10 games and lost four but, if the teams remain equal, the 49ers will take the honour because of their victory in Dallas last month.

Switzer's adventurous decision to order the ball to be run rather than punted was based on logic. Smith, as well as scoring his 23rd touchdown to move within one of the record established in a season by John Riggins, had averaged four yards a carry during the game.

"I knew we weren't going to win if we didn't make that play," the Cowboys coach confided. There were no recriminations from the club's owner either. "We usually make those kinds of plays," Jerry Jones said.

The Cowboys are not yet certain to win the Eastern division but they did receive some compensation for their 20-17 defeat. The losses suffered elsewhere by the Chicago Bears and the St Louis Rams on Sunday assured them of at least a place in the play-offs.

DETAILS

RESULTS: Buffalo 45 St Louis 27, New England 31 NY Jets 28; Indianapolis 41 Jacksonville 31; Atlanta 19 New Orleans 14; San Francisco 31 Carolina 10; Philadelphia 20 Dallas 17; Cincinnati 16 Chicago 10; Detroit 24 Houston 17; Seattle 31 Denver 27, Pittsburgh 29 Oakland 10; NY Giants 20 Washington 13, Tampa Bay 13 Green Bay 10 (OT).

* Does not include game played last night.
* division title † play-off place

American Football Conference

East division	W	L	PF	PA
Buffalo	9	5	310	287
Indianapolis	8	6	297	282
Miami	7	6	324	281
New England	6	8	260	326
NY Jets	3	11	227	349
Central division				
* Pittsburgh	10	4	347	276
Cincinnati	6	8	312	324
Houston	5	9	297	301
Cleveland	4	10	242	322
Jacksonville	3	11	251	339
West division				
* Kansas City	11	2	306	208
Oakland	8	6	310	257
Denver	7	7	340	297
San Diego	7	7	267	282
Seattle	7	7	316	330

National Football Conference

East division	W	L	PF	PA
† Dallas	10	4	377	258
Philadelphia	9	5	283	238
NY Giants	5	9	253	292
Arizona	4	10	242	364
Washington	4	10	275	319
Central division				
Green Bay	9	5	346	272
Detroit	8	6	355	326
Minnesota	8	6	358	321
Chicago	7	7	347	330
Tampa Bay	7	7	218	267
West division				
San Francisco	10	4	393	200
Atlanta	8	6	317	301
St Louis	7	7	264	342
Carolina	6	8	251	288
New Orleans	6	8	284	314

Shahid raises familiar fear for England A

FROM PAT GIBSON IN PESHAWAR

IT WAS a sure sign that England A were in a spot of bother when Mike Vockins, the tour manager, John Emburey, the cricket manager, and Nasser Hussain, the captain, were to be seen locked in earnest conversation with the umpires at the end of the fourth day of the third and final "Test" here last night.

They had asked to look at the ball with which Pakistan A had reduced Hussain's side to 69 for two in their second innings, leaving them 39 runs short of avoiding an innings defeat. Suddenly shades of the Pakistan tour of England in 1992 and the ball tampering affair seemed as long as the shadows stretching across the pitch.

"Paranoia" is the word that springs to mind. It is a fact that Shahid Nazir, the young fast-medium bowler who took six for 64 in England A's first innings and has already claimed the important wicket of Knight in the second, has swung the ball considerably more than his English counterparts, Headley and Giddins, but it could simply be that he is better at it than they are.

If the England management have any evidence to the contrary, they are keeping it to themselves. They do not want to say anything that smacks of sour grapes the first time they are in danger of defeat on what is supposed to be a bridge-building tour and, if England A survive today, as they should, and take the three-match series 1-0, it is doubtful whether any more will be heard on the subject.

There is not a lot that can be done about it anyway. The umpires are in charge, as they have gone to some pains to indicate during a tedious match that has lost more than a day and a half through late starts and bad light, and they have found nothing untoward with the ball. The match referee has, apparently, been playing in another game on a nearby ground and may be unaware of any controversy.

Unfortunately, that is the way things are in Pakistan cricket and touring teams have to put up with it. There was another example of the lack of communication yesterday when they umpires, having told the England team that there would be a lengthy delay because the bowlers' run-ups were damp after overnight rain, had them scurrying back from their hotel when they ordered a resumption.

To add to their frustration, Asif Mujtaba, the Pakistan A captain, who had been dropped first ball, went on to an unbeaten 147 and, with staunch support from the tail, gave his side a lead of 101. Headley and Giddins bowled unchanged and were rewarded with five wickets each.

There was still more aggravation to come. Knight, who is not only Gallian's opening partner but also his rival for a possible place in the England Test side, clearly felt that he had hit the ball when he was given out leg-before to Shahid. Finally, Salisbury, the first of two nightwatchmen, had to contend with the shadow of short leg landing precisely on a length for the off-spinner, Akram Raza, and, not surprisingly, was soon caught off bat and pad. The England management had a word with the umpires about that, too, and on that issue, at any rate, they had a point.

ENGLAND A: First innings 199 (D P Ostler 68, N V Knight 55; Shahid Nazir 6-64) Pakistan A 97-4.

Second innings

N V Knight lbw b Shahid Nazir	15
J E R Gallian not out	42
I D K Salisbury c Sami b Akram	2
S D Udal not out	1
Extras (b1, lb1)	2
Total (2 wkts)	82

*N Hussain, J C Pooley, D P Ostler, A McGrath, †K J Piper, D W Headley and E S H Giddins to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-56, 2-61.

BOWLING: Athar 6-0-28-0; Shahid Nazir 11.4-4-22-1; Shakil Anwar 2-1-3-0; Akram 5-0-9-1.

PAKISTAN A: First innings

Shakeel Ahmed c Knight b Giddins	1
Shadid Anwar b Headley	0
Babar Zaman b Headley	0
*Asif Mujtaba not out	147
Javed Sami lbw b Giddins	6
Shahid Javed c Piper b Headley	40
†Wasim Yousuf c Piper b Headley	5
Akram Raza b Giddins	40
Salman Fazal c Ostler b Giddins	5
Athar Laig c Udal b Giddins	19
Shahid Nazir c Piper b Headley	4
Extras (b 6, lb 11, nb 16)	33
Total	300

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-1, 2-1, 3-1, 4-22, 5-97, 6-112, 7-250, 8-258, 9-285.

BOWLING: Headley 45-8-109-5; Giddins 39.4-5-104-5; Salisbury 6-0-28-0; Udal 12-2-31-0; Gallian 9-5-11-0.

Umpires: Iftikhar Malik and Feroz Butt.

Landmark for Warne in crushing Test win

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

AN ELEGANT century by Hashan Tillekeratne could not save Sri Lanka from a four-day defeat by Australia in the first Test at Perth yesterday. Shane Warne took his 200th Test wicket on his 42nd appearance for his country as Sri Lanka were bowled out for 330 and beaten by an innings and 36 runs.

Tillekeratne's fourth Test hundred came after the loss of four wickets before lunch. He and the captain, Arjuna Ranatunga, added 88 for the fifth wicket, the best stand of the innings. Tillekeratne played Warne with great composure and one four-over spell cost the leg spinner 27 runs, after which he was rested.

Warne, who admitted afterwards that he had not been at his best, returned to claim his 200th wicket when Chaminda Vaas, going for a big hit, top-edged a catch gratefully accepted by Ian Healy, the wicketkeeper. Warne, who ended the innings by having Tillekeratne caught for 119, finished with match figures of six for 171, while Glenn McGrath took seven for 167.

Although Warne's strike rate of a wicket every 62.35 deliveries is the best for a spinner capturing 200 wickets, he is only the fourth quickest to reach this landmark in terms of Tests played. The Australian leg spinner, Clarrie Grimmett, reached 200 wickets in only 36 Tests, Dennis Lillee took 37 and Ian Botham 41. Malcolm Marshall also passed 200 on his 42nd appearance.

After the match Sri Lanka attempted to mitigate the damage caused by being found guilty of ball tampering by the match referee, Graham Dowling, during the Australian innings of 617 for five declared.

"It was an unfortunate incident and the only way we could clear ourselves was to give a detailed report [to Dowling], which is what we have done," the team manager, Duleep Mendis, said.

Scoreboard, page 43

N Zealand baffled by Mushtaq's wizardry

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

PAKISTAN were on the brink of a convincing victory over New Zealand at the close of the fourth day of the Christchurch Test. New Zealand, set to score 357 to win, were struggling at 158 for seven and might already have lost but for the defiance of Roger Twose, the former Warwickshire batsman, whose unbeaten 44 has occupied three hours ten minutes during which he has faced 137 deliveries.

New Zealand's uphill chase began well, with Bryan Young and Craig Spearman adding 50 for the first wicket. However, five wickets then fell for 25 runs in the space of 14.3 overs as the leg spinner, Mushtaq Ahmed, weaved his spell.

Having taken 18 wickets in the last two Tests against Australia and three in the New Zealand first innings, Mushtaq helped himself to four more in the afternoon session, sending New Zealand to tea at 85 for five.

In the final period, the New Zealand captain, Lee Germon, was run out after hesitating over a sharp single to square leg and Dipak Patel, after grafting for an hour, was bowled behind his legs by Mushtaq while attempting to sweep. Mushtaq's five wickets have cost 43 runs in 27 overs.

Waqar Younis, who has 199 Test wickets, should have accounted for Twose shortly before the close but Ijaz Ahmed dropped a sitter at mid-on. But this should prove only a brief delay to Younis, who is striving to become the youngest player, at the age of 24, to take 200 wickets in Test cricket.

Pakistan, who resumed at 369 for seven, carried on their second innings until 25 minutes before lunch. Younis made his highest Test score, 34, before being last out, while Mushtaq contributed a useful 24. The wickets were spread around the five New Zealand bowlers, Chris Cairns finishing with the best figures, three for 114.

Scoreboard, page 43

Grand Slam Cup fails to find niche

BY STUART JONES
TENNIS CORRESPONDENT

THE Grand Slam Cup is still undergoing an identity crisis. The product of political wranglings when it was inaugurated five years ago, it was originally intended to be held in October and to feature men and women. It remains half of the right tournament staged at the wrong time.

The International Tennis Federation envisaged a festive and financial bonanza to close the year. The tournament suffers, however, from its proximity to the ATP tour championship finals. Both events, staged indoors a few hundred miles and three weeks apart, inevitably devalue each other. Brian Tobin, the president of the ITF, accepts that the season reaches a regrettable "bottleneck". It will be even more severe next year.

The two tournaments and the Davis Cup final, which could also be hosted by Germany, are to fill successive weekends. Such fixture congestion would have been avoided if the ITF and the Association of Tennis Professionals, which set up its own tour in 1990, were partners working in co-operation rather than still largely in conflict.

The ATP tour championship finals, to be moved next year from its established home in Frankfurt to Hanover, is the more natural concluding individual showpiece. Since competitors qualify through points accumulated throughout the season, it cannot take place until the middle of November.

Room can scarcely be found to accommodate the final of the most prestigious team trophy, the Davis Cup, any earlier either. Plainly, the Grand Slam Cup is the only event which can, and should, be brought forward.

From the start, it struggled for credibility. John McEnroe and Mats Wilander qualified initially but did not play and even Boris Becker declined for the first three years until the tournament organiser, Axel Meyer-Wolden, became his financial adviser.

Jim Courier stayed away as usual last week and Andre Agassi used injury as a convenient excuse for his absence from the field of 16. Pete Sampras, who withdrew after his first match, and Andrei Medvedev, who retired towards the end of his second, failed to last the course.

The top players regularly complain that their close season is too short. Yet few are prepared to reject the lure of the prize-money in Munich, which totals $6 million (around £4 million).

They would presumably be appeased if the Grand Slam Cup was played in October. The ITF is attempting to discuss the proposal with the ATP but so far with little progress.

Steelers find formula to close on Devils

THE formula for success in any league is to win at home and draw away (Norman De Mesquita writes). In the premier division of the British ice hockey league, away points are hard to come by and Sheffield Steelers, having gained a crucial away win over Fife Flyers on Saturday to move into second place, then consolidated with a narrow win at home over Durham Wasps on Sunday.

The decisive goal in a 5-4 victory came from their captain, Ron Shudra, with less than four minutes remaining. Once again, Stephen Foster excelled in the Durham goal.

Cardiff Devils stayed top and followed up their away draw with Basingstoke Bison with an easy home win over Newcastle Warriors. A seven-goal second period confirmed their superiority.

Nottingham Panthers needed five goals in the third period to beat Milton Keynes Kings 9-7 in a bad-tempered game in which 115 minutes in penalties were assessed by an overworked referee.

Equally bad-tempered was the first-division game in which Bracknell Bees, who were in third place, played Manchester Storm, in second. Manchester hung on for a 9-8 win, but there was far too much emphasis on physical play which should have been more strictly dealt with by an over-indulgent referee.

The win took Manchester to joint top of the division, as Blackburn Hawks were surprisingly beaten at home by Telford Tigers. Blackburn's reliance on too few players was their downfall and the loss of their player/coach, Ryan Kummu, for a ten-minute penalty enabled Telford to take a decisive 6-3 lead in the second period.

Results, page 43

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Tests leave equine flu vaccine with clean bill of health

By Anjana Ahuja

THE rumoured link between the vaccination for equine influenza and lung disease is a myth, according to scientists from Edinburgh University. The finding, to be announced tomorrow, is likely to surprise the racing world, which has long suspected that the vaccine triggers breathing problems in racehorses.

Dr Paddy Dixon and Dr Bruce McGorum, vets working at the Royal (Dick) School of Veterinary Studies in Edinburgh, conducted two separate studies during a two-year investigation. A dozen thoroughbreds featured in the first study, six of which were completely healthy. The other six were all sufferers of chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, an allergy to dust from straw or hay which is similar to asthma in humans.

The vets vaccinated all 12 animals and then collected mucus samples from the lungs, to check for an immune response. "Any problems would be expected to emerge within ten days," Dr McGorum said. None showed any adverse reactions.

The second study was performed on 11 horses. The animals, not all of which were racehorses, were thought susceptible because their owners had all alleged a problem after previous vaccinations. After vaccination, nine showed no reaction. The other two developed temporary lung disease within four days, later found to be because of the herpes virus. In horses the virus is responsible for equine colds.

"It's possible that the vaccine could have reactivated a dormant herpes virus," Dr McGorum said. "But, though we have no proof, we think it's more likely that the horses picked up the herpes virus around the time of the vaccination. This could have been because of the stress of being jabbed, or that the vet transmitted it from another horse."

During the studies, the horses were also given placebo (blank) injections. Since the observers were not told which injections were real and which were placebos, their observations should be unbiased.

Dr McGorum will present these results tomorrow to the annual meeting of the British Equine Veterinary Association in London. He is confident there is no scientific evidence to suggest that the flu vaccine triggers lung disease. "We believe the perceived problem is bigger than the real problem," he said. "There are some people who will still see a problem but we think we have refuted most of their worries.

"Of course, there might be a very small number of horses that are susceptible. After all, humans have reacted in rare cases to the flu vaccine."

Compulsory vaccinations against flu and tetanus were introduced by the Jockey Club in the early Eighties. Records of the annual jabs are kept in the racehorses' passports. According to Dr McGorum, most owners have their animals treated outside the racing season just in case the animal reacts.

The Animal Health Trust in Newmarket, whose scientists have conducted extensive research into equine flu, expressed delight at the findings. Phil Spiby, a Trust spokesman, said: "We are glad the Edinburgh researchers back us up. We have always maintained there is no connection between the vaccine and lung disease, even though there has been unhappiness at the mandatory vaccination rules."

"The Trust has shown that equine flu is much more debilitating in an unvaccinated population, so the mandatory policy is absolutely vital," he added.

Dr Dixon and Dr McGorum plan to publish their results next spring in the *Equine Veterinary Journal*. Their research was funded by a £56,000 grant from the Horserace Betting Levy Board and conducted with the help of a veterinary practice in Kilmarnock.

Similar studies have been done in the past but the findings have not been harmonious. "There is a big difference of opinion but we hope that ours might be the final word on this matter," Dr McGorum said.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: ANGUS MCCOATUP
(2.15 Wolverhampton)
Next best: Bogart
(3.45 Wolverhampton)

Jockeys face harsher sentences under new penalty system

JULIAN HERBERT



Miss Souter and David Bridgwater leap clear in the Horserace Betting Levy Board Handicap Hurdle at Newton Abbot yesterday

Sound Man to miss Kempton showpiece

By Our Racing Staff

SOUND MAN will not run in the King George VI Tripleprint Chase at Kempton on Boxing Day. The Irish chaser will concentrate on shorter distances before attempting to wrest the Queen Mother Champion Chase from Viking Flagship's grasp at Cheltenham on March 13.

Edward O'Grady, who trains the seven-year-old, unbeaten in four starts this season, said yesterday: "We will now wait until February when he has got three options, the Comet Chase at Ascot, the Game Spirit Chase at Newbury and the Newlands Chase at Naas. Which one he runs in will depend on the ground and the conditions."

This exciting chaser posted emphatic victories in the First National Bank Gold Cup at Ascot and, more recently, the Mitsubishi Shogun Tingle Creek Chase at Sandown.

Meanwhile, a new penalty system, under which jockeys could receive longer or suspended sentences but make fewer appearances before the Jockey Club's Disciplinary Committee, was unveiled yesterday.

In an attempt to reduce Disciplinary Committee hearings to those cases involving persistent offenders and the most serious breaches of the rules, a new totting-up procedure is to be introduced.

From January 1 next year, jockeys will be referred to Portman Square only when they reoffend having reached suspensions totalling 12 or more days for interference or misuse of the whip.

As a result, Anthony Mildmay-White, chairman of the Disciplinary Committee, forecasts a halving in the number of referrals to Portman Square but "long suspensions" for those who breach the rules regularly. "Jockeys who persistently break the rules deserve a long period of suspension, both as a punishment and as a deterrent," he said yesterday.

□ After it was revealed in *The Times* yesterday that, even by cutting betting duty by 1 per cent, Customs figures showed that between £5 million and £8 million would still be available, senior bookmaking sources yesterday concurred with the figures. They also conceded that there would be room within the parameters stated by Customs for part of that money to go to racing.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Newton Abbot

Going: soft

12.45 (2m 1f hdle) 1, SEASONAL SPLENDOUR (D Bridgwater, 4-5 fav); 2, Crane Hill (C Maude, 7-1); 3, Come Dance With Me (B Powell, 15-2). ALSO RAN: 6 Trisquare (pu), 10 Majboor Yafooz (6th), Myblackthorn (4th), 20 Allow, Jultara, 25 Holdimclose, 33 Borjito, Chickday Chocolate, Pride Of Britain (5th), 66 Party Bedlam (pu), 100 Miss Norwait (pu), Zitas Son (pu). 15 ran. NR: Araboybill. 6l, 14l, nk, 2½l, 2½l. M Pipe at Wellington. Tote: £2.10; £1.60, £2.20, £2.20. DF: £6.70. Trio: £15.30. CSF: £8.78.

1.15 (3m 2f 110yd ch) 1, COURT MELODY (A P McCoy, 100-30); 2, Superior Risk (D Bridgwater, 11-8 fav); 3, Ballydougan (M Fitzgerald, 50-1). ALSO RAN: 5-2 Good Insight (pu), 16 Better Bythe Glass (f), 20 Captain Dolford (pu), 25 Bournel (pu), Merlin's Lad (pu), 33 Seasamacamile (4th), Thefourthmuskateer (pu), 66 Buzz O'The Crowd (pu), Daves Delight (pu), Maggie Tee (pu). 13 ran. ½l, dist, 2l. P Nicholls at Shepton Mallet. Tote: £5.60; £1.70, £1.40, £4.90. DF: £6.90. Trio: £34.70. CSF: £8.14.

1.45 (2m 1f hdle) 1, MISS SOUTER (D Bridgwater, 14-1); 2, Mustahil (T Dascombe, 8-1); 3, Koa (C Llewellyn, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 7-4 fav Dress Dance (4th), 7-2 Ferrufino (5th), 6 Chickabiddy (pu), 10 Neverold (6th). 7 ran. 5l, 3l, 12l, 3l, 6l. H Howe at Tiverton. Tote: £15.80; £3.90, £3.90. DF: £20.30. CSF: £97.39.

2.15 (2m 110yd ch) 1, JAMES THE FIRST (A P McCoy, 7-1); 2, Zajira (R Johnson, 7-2); 3, Northern Saddler (M A Fitzgerald, 11-8 fav). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Trevaylor (4th), 11 Its Nearly Time (ur). 5 ran. 1¼l, 9l, dist. P Nicholls at Shepton Mallet. Tote: £5.10; £2.40, £1.80. DF: £8.30. CSF: £26.86.

2.45 (2m 6f hdle) 1, MONTAGNARD (Mr R Thornton, 16-1); 2, Time For A Flutter (Mr E James, 6-4 fav); 3, Lying Eyes (Mr M Daly, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 13-2 Ottowa (4th), 9 The Minder (6th), 10 Morning Blush (pu), St Ville (5th), 12 Just One Canaletto, 16 Amber Valley, Cassio's Boy (pu), Glen Mirage, It's Not My Fault (pu), 33 Nine O Three, 50 Sir Crusty, 100 Mascalls Lady (pu). 15 ran. 6l, 25l, 8l, 2½l, 1l. M Bradstock at Newbury. Tote: £34.30; £6.80, £1.50, £2.80. DF: £51.90. Trio: £119.70. CSF: £41.30. Tricast: £263.79.

3.15 (2m 5f 110yd ch) 1, BRAMBLEHILL BUCK (A P McCoy, 2-1 jt-fav); 2, Clear Idea (J Frost, 16-1); 3, Allo George (A Thornton, 12-1). ALSO RAN: 2-1 jt-fav Certain Angle (4th), 6 Smiling Chief (5th), 7 Evangelica (pu), 16 Ilewin, 20 Silver Age (pu), 25 Benjamin Lancaster (pu), 40 Maple Dancer (6th). 10 ran. 5l, 15l, ½l, 4l, dist. P Nicholls at Shepton Mallet. Tote: £3.40; £1.70, £2.60, £2.10. DF: £28.70. Trio: £86.90. CSF: £32.19. Tricast: £297.85.

3.45 (2m 1f flat race) 1, SOHRAB (Jeff King, 9-1); 2, Aal El Aal (Philip Hobbs, 11-4); 3, Arctic Kinsman (Peter Scudamore, 4-9 fav). ALSO RAN: 14 Gagoos Baby, 20 My Swan Song (4th), Prerogative (5th), 25 Scent Of Power, 33 Il Bambino (6th), 66 Mheanmetoo (pu). 9 ran. 7l, 4l, dist, 15l, 15l. M Pipe at Wellington. Tote: £8.70; £2.70, £1.10, £1.10. DF: £28.50. Trio: £3.50. CSF: £38.00.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £6,024.99 carried forward to Wolverhampton today).

Placepot: £633.60. Quadpot: £187.60 (part won; pool of £126.82 carried forward to Wolverhampton today).

Prospects good

THE meeting at Folkestone today looks likely to go ahead despite a slight frost on Sunday night. Racing could have taken place yesterday as the track bathed in sunshine. There are no weather problems for tomorrow's meeting at Exeter, while they are hopeful of racing at Bangor if the forecast is accurate. The meeting at Towcester on Thursday is in jeopardy with the course frozen.

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FOLKESTONE

THUNDERER
12.30 INCULCATE (nap)
1.00 Change The Reign
1.30 Intention
2.00 No Pain No Gain
2.30 Preenka Girl
3.00 Le Chat Noir
3.30 Chaprassi

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE RACECARD

101 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 .... B West (7) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: F if flat (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD SIS

12.30 LEVY BOARD HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,226: 2m 1f 110yd) (8 runners)

1 320-023 INCULCATE 12 (BF) (Swan Racing) C Weedon 4-12-0 .... B McGann (7) 90
2 2P03-04 SOLEIL DANCER 151 (S) (Mrs J Grist) D Grissell 7-10-13 .... D Bridgwater 94
3 0213-42 MEANUS MILLER 24 (S) (Miss G Donovan) R Rowe 7-10-11 .... D O'Sullivan 94
4 3800-40 NIGHT IN A MILLION 12 (Leith Hill Chasers) S Woodman 4-10-5 .... K Gaule (3) 85
5 65P5-20 GREY FINCH 3 (Economic Security) O Sherwood 6-10-1 .... J Osborne [illegible]
6 3233-24 PAIR OF JACKS 7 (BF) (D Wilson) D Wilson 5-10-0 .... B Fenton (5) 98
7 50-1332 DONTDRESSFORDINNER 8 (D,F) C Popham 5-10-0 .... T Dascombe (5) 91
8 P-R50 NORTHERN HIGHLIGHT 26 (Mrs J Jennings) T McGovern 4-10-0 .... A P McCoy 93

Long handicap: Dontdressfordinner, 9-12, Northern Highlight 9-7.

BETTING: 6-4 Inculcate, 3-1 Meanus Miller, 7-2 Grey Finch, 7-1 Pair Of Jacks, 8-1 Soleil Dancer, Dontdressfordinner, 14-1 others.

1994: PYRAMIS PRINCE 4-10-13 J Osborne (5-1) Miss H Knight 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

INCULCATE 5½l 3rd of 12 to Teinein in novice hurdle at Windsor (2m, good to soft). Previously 2l 2nd of 16 to Zephyrus in novice hurdle at Warwick (2m, good) with NORTHERN HIGHLIGHT (28lb better off) 15l 9th. SOLEIL DANCER 40l 4th of 9 to Any Minute Now in handicap hurdle at Stratford (2m 3f, good to firm). MEANUS MILLER 3½l 2nd of 8 to Celibate in handicap hurdle at Towcester (2m, good to firm). NIGHT IN A MILLION 50½l 7th of 12 to Master Beveled in novice hurdle at Windsor (2m, good to soft). GREY FINCH (later placed 2nd) beat ENVOPAKLEADA (later promoted to 1st) neck in 8-runner novice hurdle over course and distance (good to firm) on penultimate start. PAIR OF JACKS 13¼l 4th of 9 to False Creek in claiming novice hurdle at Plumpton (2m 1f, good to soft). DONTDRESSFORDINNER 9l 3rd of 15 to Ho-Joe in selling hurdle at Hereford (2m 1f, good to soft) on penultimate start.
Selection: INCULCATE

1.00 HEATHFIELD HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,950: 3m 2f) (9 runners)

1 540-P40 ANNIO CHILONE 11 (CD,G,S) (Miss J Semple) J Gifford 9-12-0 .... Mr P O'Keeffe (7) 93
2 13211/1 ROYAL SQUARE 12 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs C Clewett) G Harwood 9-11-12 .... M Perrett 97
3 4413-6F SUPER MALT 11 (B,F,G,S) (F Allison) B Meehan 7-11-11 .... B Powell 87
4 1243-12 CHANGE THE REIGN 29 (D,F,G,S) (E Nicolson) Miss A Embiricos 8-11-11 .... J R Kavanagh 95
5 013P-32 WOODLANDS BOY 14 (D,F,S) (S Moore) R Head 7-11-10 .... G Bradley 88
6 02F13-0 FULL OF OATS 19 (CD,BF,S) (I MacDonald) Miss H Knight 9-11-7 .... M A Fitzgerald 97
7 U112 EQUITY PLAYER 17 (D,F,G,S) (The Mrs S Partnership) R Curtis 10-11-5 .... D Walsh (5) [illegible]
8 22112 COLUMCILLE 5 (CD,BF,F,G) (R Alner) R Alner 9-10-11 .... R Johnson (3) 94
9 0335-63 BRORA ROSE 22 (B,S) (S Watkins) P Rodford 7-10-0 .... S Burrough 83

Long handicap: Brora Rose 9-1.

BETTING: 9-4 Royal Square, 4-1 Equity Player, 5-1 Change The Reign, 6-1 Full Of Oats, 8-1 Annio Chilone, Woodlands Boy, Columcille, 12-1 others.

1994: ANNIO CHILONE 8-11-9 P Hide (7-1) J Gifford 11 ran

FORM FOCUS

ROYAL SQUARE beat Ask The Governor head in 6-runner amateur riders' handicap chase at Windsor (2m 5f, good). CHANGE THE REIGN 1¾l 2nd of 3 to Jimmy O'Dea in handicap chase at Leicester (3m, firm). WOODLANDS BOY neck 2nd of 12 to Daring King in conditional jockeys' handicap hurdle at Fontwell (2m 6f, soft). FULL OF OATS 46l last of 7 to Duhallow Lodge in handicap chase at Taunton (3m, good). EQUITY PLAYER beat Frozen Drop 14l in 5-runner handicap chase at Fontwell (3m 2f 110yd, good to soft) on penultimate start, with ANNIO CHILONE (15lb better off) 23l 4th. COLUMCILLE dist 2nd of 7 to Stunning Stuff in handicap chase at Nottingham (3m 3f 110yd, good).
Selection: EQUITY PLAYER

1.30 LYMPNE NOVICES SELLING HURDLE
(£2,194: 2m 1f 110yd) (14 runners)

1 0-03162 CLOWATER LADY 14 (F) (The Pacific Partnership) R Rowe 6-11-1 .... D O'Sullivan 94
2 40 CHARTER LANE 15 (Miss A Emanuel) Mrs L Jewell 5-11-0 .... J Railton –
3 2P6-3P3 DESERT PRESIDENT 10 (P Mooney) R Hoad 4-11-0 .... G Bradley 92
4 6 HAPPY HOSTAGE 29 (A Albright) J White 4-11-0 .... A P McCoy 74
5 4/P055-6 INTENTION 12 (The Spoofers) P Hedger 5-11-0 .... M Richards 81
6 JAHANGIR 6F (Mrs R Johnston) Pat Mitchell 6-11-0 .... V Smith –
7 100/000- SPRINTFAYRE 397 (G) (Mrs G Davison) Mrs M Long 7-11-0 .... D Gallagher –
8 0PP-PPP THUNDEROUS 6F (B) (Miss J Self) J Bridger 4-11-0 .... W McFarland –
9 26U00-5 TICKERTY'S GIFT 27 (K Higson) G L Moore 5-11-0 .... M A Fitzgerald [illegible]
10 6 VALIANT TOSKI 51 (B) (Sir John Swaine) M Pipe 4-11-0 .... D Bridgwater –
11 0P NICK THE GOLD 30 (Mrs E Kiernan) A Moore 4-10-9 .... M Batchelor (7) –
12 0-53 RAKAPOSHI QUEEN 7 (Mrs D Hues) D Gandolfo 4-10-9 .... Sophie Mitchell 95
13 2/R- SURGICAL SPIRIT 332P (J Homewood) J Homewood 5-10-9 .... F Cooper (7) –
14 00- WILLINGLY 239 (K Clutterbuck) K Clutterbuck 5-10-9 .... D Walsh (5) –

BETTING: 3-1 Clowater Lady, 7-2 Valiant Toski, 4-1 Rakaposhi Queen, 7-1 Intention, 8-1 Happy Hostage, 10-1 Tickerty's Gift, 12-1 others.

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

CLOWATER LADY best effort this term beat Elusive Star 15l in 3-runner novice hurdle at Huntingdon (2m 5f 110yd, good to firm). DESERT PRESIDENT dist 3rd of 10 to Cavalero in selling novice hurdle at Chepstow (2m 4f 110yd, soft). HAPPY HOSTAGE 20l 6th of 17 to Greenway Lady in selling hurdle at Leicester (2m, good). INTENTION about 21l 6th of 12 to Teinein in novice hurdle at Windsor (2m, good to soft). TICKERTY'S GIFT 32l 5th of 9 to Can Can Charlie in novices handicap hurdle at Kempton (2m, good). VALIANT TOSKI 54½l 6th of 10 to Keep It Zipped in novice hurdle at Wincanton (2m, firm). RAKAPOSHI QUEEN 10l 3rd of 9 to False Creek in claiming novice hurdle at Plumpton (2m 1f, good to soft). SURGICAL SPIRIT 10l 2nd of 4 to Kalicko in National Hunt Flat race at Lingfield (AW, 2m) on penultimate start, Mar 1994.
Selection: INTENTION

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Runs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
Miss H Knight	5	12	41.7	M Richards	6	25	24.0
M Pipe	7	25	28.0	D Bridgwater	3	15	20.0
R Alner	4	16	25.0	M A Fitzgerald	3	17	17.6
S Dow	4	17	23.5	M Perrett	3	20	15.0
D Wilson	3	14	21.4	P Hide	4	27	14.8
J Gifford	13	64	20.3	J Osborne	7	49	14.3

2.00 BET WITH THE TOTE NOVICES CHASE
(Qualifier: £4,110: 2m 5f) (12 runners)

1 BUCKLE DOWN (J Grist) K Bailey 6-11-0 .... A Thornton –
2 P080-F2 CALL ME RIVER 20 (The Larkin Around Partnership) P Hedger 7-11-0 .... I Lawrence 50
3 4P6/3P-3 CAPSIZE 48 (V,G) (F Hill) A Moore 9-11-0 .... B Powell 72
4 40/0/ COOLEGALE 239P (Mrs C Zetter-Wells) L Wells 9-11-0 .... Peter Hobbs –
5 5546/00- GOD SPEED YOU 351 (Wallop) C Nash 6-11-0 .... J R Kavanagh –
6 2 GRAPHIC DESIGNER 25 (GPS (Print) Ltd) G Harwood 6-11-0 .... M Perrett –
7 5/ LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN 640 (Pell-mell Partners) S Sherwood 7-11-0 .... J Osborne –
8 3416-B2 NO PAIN NO GAIN 30 (BF,G,S) (The Marvellous Partnership) J Gifford 7-11-0 .... P Hide 80
9 15/03U5 STRONG JOHN 10 (BF,F,G) (G Hubbard) G Hubbard 7-11-0 .... K Gaule (3) –
10 5/50/06- SUPER SENSE 307 (G,S) (T McGovern) T McGovern 10-11-0 .... D Bridgwater –
11 70P0/04- THE GOLFING CURATE 386 (S) (C Poore) R Rowe 10-11-0 .... D O'Sullivan 75
12 1/5PP/3 LORNA-GAIL 15 (G,S) (H Perry) R Alner 9-10-9 .... R Johnson (3) [illegible]

BETTING: 9-4 No Pain No Gain, 7-2 Graphic Designer, 4-1 Lorna-Gail, 8-1 Lookout Mountain, Buckle Down, 10-1 Strong John, 16-1 others.

1994: YEOMAN WARRIOR 7-11-0 R Dunwoody (4-1) R Rowe 9 ran

FORM FOCUS

CALL ME RIVER 11l 2nd of 5 to Zambezi Spirit in novice handicap chase at Windsor (3m, good to firm). CAPSIZE 6l 3rd of 6 to Columcille in novice chase at Fontwell (3m 2f 110yd, good). GRAPHIC DESIGNER 10l 2nd of 9 to Foxbow in novice hurdle at Ascot (3m, good). LOOKOUT MOUNTAIN about 22l 5th of 25 to Squire Silk in novice hurdle at Sandown (3m 110yd, good) Mar 1994. NO PAIN NO GAIN 1¼l 2nd of 7 to Candle King in novice chase at Fontwell (2m 3f, good to soft) with CALL ME RIVER fell 4th. THE GOLFING CURATE 9¼l 4th of 8 to Edimbourg in handicap chase over course and distance (good). LORNA-GAIL 18½l 3rd of 8 to Hebridean in novice chase at Worcester (2m 4f 110yd, soft).
Selection: LORNA-GAIL

2.30 SELLINDGE HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,213: 2m 6f 110yd) (10 runners)

1 13-0305 ESPRIT DE FEMME 22 (D,F) (Mrs L Browning) D Browning 9-11-11 .... M A Fitzgerald 95
2 13/1- SISTER STEPHANIE 365 (G,S) (Antwick Pines) Mrs M McCourt 6-11-7 .... G McCourt 89
3 03521-4 GAMEFULL GOLD 20 (CD,F,G) (Mrs C Martin) S Dow 6-11-4 .... A P McCoy 92
4 30P-315 PETTAUGH 10 (CD,BF,F) (G Hubbard) G Hubbard 7-11-0 .... K Gaule (3) 96
5 111112 PREENKA GIRL 21 (BF,F,G,S) (Martin Pipe Club) M Pipe 6-10-11 .... D Bridgwater 92
6 05P-1 ENVOPAKLEADA 22 (C,F) (F Arthur) D Grissell 5-10-5 .... Peter Hobbs [illegible]
7 6135-22 DUNLIR 22 (F) (B Brazier) P Rodford 5-10-1 .... S Burrough 97
8 3-3544F ROGER'S PAL 14 (G,S) (A Moore) A Moore 8-10-0 .... B Powell 94
9 PP30- CAPTAIN COE 224 (Hean of the South Racing) R Curtis 5-10-0 .... D Walsh (5) –
10 4P5-506 PONTEVECCHIO BELLA 21 (S) (Mrs H Clarke) Mrs L Jewell 9-10-0 .... W Walsh (7) 69

Long handicap: Roger's Pal 9-10, Captain Coe 9-2, Pontevecchio Bella 8-10.

BETTING: 13-8 Preenka Girl, 4-1 Sister Stephanie, 9-2 Gamefull Gold, 5-1 Envopakleada, 8-1 Pettaugh, 10-1 Dunlir, 14-1 others

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

ESPRIT DE FEMME best effort this term 11l 3rd of 5 to Bures in handicap hurdle at Fontwell (2m 2f, good). SISTER STEPHANIE beat Raisin Turf 4l in 17-runner novice hurdle at Warwick (2m 4f 110yd, good). GAMEFULL GOLD 14l 4th of 10 to Fortunes Course in handicap hurdle at Windsor (2m 6f 110yd, good). PETTAUGH beat DUNLIR (8lb better off) 7l in 9-runner handicap hurdle over course and distance (good to firm) on penultimate start, with ESPRIT DE FEMME (8lb better off) 24½l 5th. PREENKA GIRL 2½l 2nd of 4 to Sounds Strong in novice chase at Cheltenham (3m 1f, good). ENVOPAKLEADA (later promoted to 1st) neck 2nd of 8 to GREY FINCH (later placed 2nd) in novice hurdle here (2m 1f 110yd, good to firm).
Selection: PREENKA GIRL (nap)

3.00 SHADDOXHURST CONDITIONAL JOCKEYS HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,588: 2m) (7 runners)

1 34/P/PP VODKA FIZZ 15 (F,S) (Dick Richardson Racing Ltd) R Rowe 10-12-0 .... D Carson (3) –
2 /F4-1 LE CHAT NOIR 7 (C,D,F,G,S) (F Parsons) D Grissell 12-11-11 (6ex) .... B Fenton [illegible]
3 62363-U MANABOUTTHEHOUSE 4 (F Janvey) G Thorner 8-11-10 .... R Johnson 93
4 2134-53 RATHER SHARP 11 (D,F,S) (C Popham) C Popham 9-11-9 .... T Dascombe 91
5 43/42 DANTE'S DELIGHT 22 (P Jones) P Jones 7-10-9 .... D Leahy 89
6 PP/P-35 PRECIOUS WONDER 7 (D Butler) P Butler 6-10-1 .... T J Murphy 80
7 PPP0/ JAYSMITH 598P (F,G) (M Wells) J Poulton 9-10-0 .... K Gaule –

BETTING: 7-4 Le Chat Noir, 9-4 Manabouthehouse, 7-2 Dante's Delight, 6-1 Rather Sharp, 12-1 Precious Wonder, 25-1 Vodka Fizz, 33-1 Jaysmith.

1994: PEGMARINE 11-11-6 J A McCarthy (2-1) Mrs A Woodrow 4 ran

FORM FOCUS

LE CHAT NOIR beat The Carrol Man 1¼l in 6-runner handicap chase at Plumpton (2m, soft). MANABOUTTHEHOUSE 18l 3rd of 16 to Chief's Song in novice hurdle at Fontwell (2m 2f, good) on penultimate start. RATHER SHARP 15l 3rd of 9 to Sophism in selling handicap chase at Exeter (2m 2f, good to soft). DANTE'S DELIGHT short-head 2nd of 7 to Vicosa in novice handicap chase over course and distance (good to firm). PRECIOUS WONDER about 15¾l 5th of 7 to Annie Kelly in novice handicap chase at Huntingdon (2m 110yd, good to soft).
Selection: LE CHAT NOIR

3.30 ALDINGTON STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE
(£1,277: 2m 1f 110yd) (11 runners)

1 4/1 CHAPRASSI 20 (S) (B Kilpatrick) M Pipe 6-11-11 .... D Bridgwater –
2 3- CHAI-YO 202 (N Vizey) J Old 5-11-4 .... T Grantham –
3 EAU SO SLOE (Mrs J Druce) M Pipe 4-11-4 .... J Lower –
4 EUROCHIEF (D Hallums) J Banks 4-11-4 .... S Keightley –
5 KNIGHTON (Just For The Crack Partnership) T Naughton 4-11-4 .... D Gallagher –
6 MULLINTOR (T Thompson) R Rowe 4-11-4 .... D Carson (7) –
7 SIR DANTE (P Wilby) R Rowe 4-11-4 .... D O'Sullivan –
8 SOUNDS LIKE FUN (Mrs H Brown) Miss H Knight 4-11-4 .... G F Ryan (5) –
9 53 SOUTHSEA SCANDALS 38 (BF) (P Tosh) M Chapman 4-11-4 .... A Thornton –
10 0-0 SIMOCKI 185 (A Neaves) A Neaves 4-10-13 .... R Johnson (3) –
11 0- WAR HEROINE 213 (Dr K Bowen) C Nash 5-10-13 .... J R Kavanagh –

BETTING: 6-4 Chaprassi, 7-2 Chai-Yo, 6-1 Southsea Scandals, 7-1 Sounds Like Fun, 8-1 Eau So Sloe, 12-1 Sir Dante, 16-1 others.

1994: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

FORM FOCUS

CHAPRASSI beat Dream Ride 3½l in 11-runner National Hunt Flat race at Chepstow (2m 110yd, soft). CHAI-YO head and 4l 3rd of 18 to Best Of Friends in National Hunt Flat race at Worcester (2m, good). SOUTHSEA SCANDALS 2l and neck 3rd of 10 to Knightsbridge in National Hunt Flat race at Wincanton (2m, good to firm). SIMOCKI 87l 15th of 16 to Sir Turtle in National Hunt Flat race at Worcester (2m, good to firm). WAR HEROINE 39l 11th of 20 to Coole Hill in National Hunt Flat race at Worcester (2m, good).
Selection: CHAPRASSI

McCoy extends title lead

TONY MCCOY extended his lead over David Bridgwater at the top of the jump jockeys' table when riding a 103-1 treble for his governor, Paul Nicholls, at Newton Abbot yesterday.

Court Melody set the ball rolling when winning the Les Seward Memorial Trophy Novices' Chase from Martin Pipe's highly-regarded Irish import Superior Risk. The win had Nicholls thinking of the Cheltenham Festival for his charge. "He had the virus all last season, but after this I will aim him at the Sun Alliance Chase at Cheltenham," he said.

James The First provided the middle leg of the treble in the Best in the West Challenge Trophy Handicap Chase, while McCoy had to be at his strongest to roust home Bramblehill Buck in the Tom Holt and Reality Handicap Chase.

RACING AHEAD

Robert Wright suggests the best value in the ante-post market

BETTERWARE CUP
Ascot, December 16

GUIDE TO THE LEADING PRICES

	Coral	Hills	Ladbrokes	Tote
Rough Quest	11-4	3-1	3-1	11-4
Couldnt Be Better	7-2	4-1	7-2	4-1
Unguided Missile	5-1	5-1	4-1	5-1
Yorkshire Gale	6-1	7-1	7-1	9-1
Young Hustler	8-1	15-2	6-1	7-1
Percy Smollett	10-1	10-1	10-1	8-1
The Frog Prince	14-1	10-1	14-1	9-1
Dont Tell The Wife	10-1	16-1	14-1	16-1
Bradbury Star	14-1	14-1	14-1	11-1
Garrison Savannah	16-1	16-1	25-1	20-1
Unholy Alliance	16-1	16-1	20-1	20-1

THE Betterware Cup at Ascot on Saturday has fared better than most recent handicap chases in terms of entries, with most of the 14 declared at yesterday's five-day stage likely to stand their ground.

Couldnt Be Better and Rough Quest, first and second in the Hennessy Gold Cup at Newbury last month, dominate the betting. Couldnt Be Better was impressive that day, winning by 14 lengths, but is far from certain to confirm the form on 5lb worse terms as Rough Quest, who is usually held up, went for home from halfway and had nothing left to give at the finish. Likely to be ridden with more restraint at Ascot, he can turn the tables.

Young Hustler won this race two years ago, and is sure to give a good account again if the ground stays on the fast side in spite of being burdened with top weight.

Bradbury Star is the other class horse of the race, and he can be forgiven a poor run on desperately testing ground at Chepstow ten days ago. The 16-1 offered by Coral is tempting, but his stamina would be in question if the ground turned soft.

Gordon Richards has his string in tremendous form at the moment, and likes nothing more than to plunder valuable prizes in the south. In Unguided Missile, he has the ideal weapon for Saturday's race. The seven-year-old has a high cruising speed and should be able to sit comfortably behind the strong pace likely to be set by Young Hustler. At 5-1, **UNGUIDED MISSILE** can add to Richards's recent haul.

WOLVERHAMPTON

THUNDERER
1.15 Manful. 1.45 Little Ibnr. 2.15 Ebony Boy. 2.45 Studio Thirty. 3.15 Flood's Fancy. 3.45 Maple Bay. 4.15 Modest Hope. 4.45 Desert Invader.

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 3.45 DEEPLY VALE.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 1.15 Carrolls Marc. 1.45 Tafahhus. 2.45 MEDIATE (nap).

GOING: STANDARD DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE SIS

1.15 IMI AIR CONDITIONING AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP (Div I: £2,187: 1m 4f) (12 runners)

101 (8) 5230 MANFUL 13 (F) J Hetherton 3-11-7 .... Miss A Elsey 95
102 (12) 0633 HILL FARM DANCER 29 (CD,F,G) W Brisbourne 4-11-3 .... W McLaughlin (5) 88
103 (3) 0603 MAGICATION 22 (F,G) B Richmond 5-10-11 .... Mrs M Morris (5) 91
104 (1) -345 CARROLLS MARC 321 (CD,BF,F,G) C Murray 7-10-10 .... Miss Diana Jones 94
105 (4) 0000 TELEPHUS 7J (D,F,G) B McMath 6-10-9 .... Miss P Jones 90
106 (6) 50-0 MEDIA MESSENGER 304J (S) N Littmoden 6-10-9 .... O Gunter (5) 85
107 (2) 0-30 FORGETFUL 12J D Burchell 6-10-5 .... Miss E J Jones (5) 85
108 (7) 5000 COMTEC'S LEGEND 21 (CD,F,G) J Bottomley 5-10-2 .... Mrs L Pearce 84
109 (11) 00/ BEAU QUEST 743 (D,F,G) B Cambidge 8-9-10 .... J Cambidge –
110 (9) 6040 PIGALLE WONDER 20J N Babbage 7-9-8 .... Miss C Pegna (5) 86
111 (10) 6365 DUGGAN 13 (D,F,G) P Evans 8-9-6 .... Miss J Allison [illegible]
112 (5) 0506 ALPINE STORM 21 M Usher 3-9-4 .... Mrs A Usher (5) 84

Evens Magication, 3-1 Carrolls Marc, 7-1 Hill Farm Dancer, 8-1 Manful, 10-1 Pigalle Wonder, 12-1 Duggan, Comtec's Legend, 14-1 others.

1.45 BAXI HEATING CLAIMING STAKES
(£2,537: 6f) (13)

201 (11) 1030 LITTLE IBNR 26 (CD,F,G) P Evans 4-9-7 .... Amanda Sanders (7) 98
202 (13) 1500 CRETAN GIFT 26 (CD,G) N Littmoden 4-9-5 .... T G McLaughlin 93
203 (2) 0000 CRYSTAL LOOP 31 (CD,F,G) A Bailey 3-9-2 .... G Bardwell 86
204 (7) 3202 SING WITH THE BAND 59 (G) B McMahon 4-9-2 .... S Sanders 97
205 (12) 5060 TAFAHHUS 11 (D,F) M Polglase 3-9-7 .... M Tebbutt [illegible]
206 (3) 0000 MONIS 59 (F) J Balding 4-8-11 .... J Edmunds (7) –
207 (8) RECESSIONS OVER N Littmoden 4-8-8 .... C Adamson (5) –
208 (9) 00 SELMESTON 18 P Felgate 3-8-7 .... P McCabe (3) –
209 (10) 0140 ANITA'S CONTESSA 10 (G) B Palling 3-8-6 .... R Perham 84
210 (5) 0000 GREAT BEAR 18 (G) D Chapman 3-8-6 .... P Fessey (5) 80
211 (6) 0142 MATTHEW DAVID 10 (B,D,G) S Bowring 5-8-2 .... N Carlisle 80
212 (4) 6000 BEX HILL 101 (C,G) D Haydn Jones 3-8-0 .... D Wright (3) 65
213 (1) 0000 LAST WORLD 18 J Pickering 3-7-12 .... J Quinn 78

5-2 Little Ibnr, 3-1 Sing With The Band, 5-1 Cretan Gift, 6-1 Crystal Loop, 7-1 Tafahhus, 10-1 Anita's Contessa, 12-1 others.

2.15 CRANE FLUID SYSTEMS NURSERY HANDICAP (2-Y-O: £3,103: 7f) (12)

301 (11) 4000 MYTTONS MISTAKE 73 (D,F) A Bailey 9-7 .... D Wright (3) 96
302 (2) 0213 ITSINTHEPOST 13 (C,BF,G) M Johnston 9-4 .... T Williams 85
303 (8) 063 BLUE FLYER 12 R Ingram 9-2 .... T Ashley (7) 85
304 (12) 0542 ANGUS MCCOATUP 18 B McMahon 9-0 .... O Urbina 89
305 (10) 0334 HONESTLY 10 B Smart 8-12 .... S Sanders 84
306 (9) 1006 EBONY BOY 18 (D,G) J Wharton 8-11 .... J Quinn 84
307 (5) 2110 CHILIBANG BANG 87 (C,G,S) J Berry 8-9 .... P Roberts (7) 87
308 (3) 0400 RAWI 13 W Muir 8-8 .... S D Williams 94
309 (1) 6005 ARCH ANGEL 26 (V,CD,G) D Ffrench Davis 8-4 .... N Adams 89
310 (4) 2642 GRACIOUS GRETCLO 8 C Hill 7-12 .... M Baird (5) [illegible]
311 (6) 3100 DHULIKHEL 74 (D,F) D Marks 7-10 .... P Fessey (5) 87
312 (7) 000 UNSPOKEN PRAYER 12 J Arnold 7-7 .... C Adamson (5) –

4-1 Itsinthepost, 5-1 Angus McCoatup, 6-1 Blue Flyer, Chilibang Bang, 13-2 Gracious Gretclo, 8-1 Ebony Boy, Arch Angel, 10-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: R Ingram, 6 winners from 19 runners, 31.6%; M Johnston, 29 from 108, 26.9%; J Bottomley, 3 from 12, 25.0%; J Glover, 9 from 37, 24.3%; P Felgate, 4 from 21, 19.0%; J Pickering, 3 from 16, 18.8%.

JOCKEYS: Mrs L Pearce, 3 winners from 11 rides, 27.3%; Amanda Sanders, 8 from 41, 19.5%; J Tate, 9 from 47, 19.1%; P Fessey, 3 from 19, 15.8%; P McCabe, 6 from 39, 15.4%; M Baird, 6 from 48, 12.5%.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: There are no horses blinkered for the first time today

2.45 AIR MOVEMENT GROUP HANDICAP
(3-Y-O: £3,246: 1m 100yd) (13)

401 (7) 4000 MASTER MILLFIELD 11 (C,F,G) C Hill 9-7 .... R Perham 90
402 (1) 2603 MEDIATE 13 (F,G) A Hide 9-3 .... M Baird (5) 88
403 (11) 5000 FORZAIR 54 S Bowring 9-2 .... A Culhane 90
404 (4) 4000 FLORISMART 12J B Baugh 8-10 .... W Lord 90
405 (10) 0300 AMBIDEXTROUS 53 E Alston 8-8 .... S D Williams 90
406 (13) 6145 GENTLE IRONY 10 (B,D,F,G,S) B Meehan 8-7 .... J F Egan 90
407 (12) 0053 DAVID JAMES' GIRL 10 (C,BF,G,S) A Bailey 8-5 .... D Wright (3) 90
408 (2) 0060 PHARLY REEF 19J D Burchell 8-2 .... S Sanders 92
409 (5) 2542 DR CALIGARI 22 (V,BF) S Gollings 8-2 .... J Quinn [illegible]
410 (9) 0613 STUDIO THIRTY 6 (C,G) D Morris 8-2 .... J Tate 98
411 (3) 0020 MAZILLA 3 (C,D,G) A Streeter 8-0 .... J Fanning 93
412 (6) 2105 LITTLE SCARLETT 17 (CD,G) P Makin 7-10 .... N Carlisle 90
413 (8) 2200 THE MESTRAL 10 (B) M Ryan 7-7 .... G Bardwell 92

7-2 Studio Thirty, 4-1 Mediate, 9-2 Dr Caligari, 6-1 Mazilla, 10-1 Forzair, Gentle Irony, Little Scarlett, 12-1 others.

3.15 HVCA SELLING STAKES
(2-Y-O: £2,259: 6f) (13)

501 (2) 2160 ABBOTT OF WHALLEY 31 (D,G) M Wane 9-2 .... J F Egan 79
502 (3) 1040 SPORTING FANTASY 73 (F) J Balding 9-2 .... J Edmunds (7) 81
503 (1) 5300 DON'T TELL VICKI 17 (D,F) J Moore 8-11 .... P P Murphy (5) 84
504 (9) 1005 FLOOD'S FANCY 10 (B,D,F) A Bailey 8-11 .... P Roberts (7) 81
505 (10) GUY'S GAMBLE J Wharton 8-11 .... J Fanning –
506 (12) 4444 IMAGE MAKER 11 (B,C,G) B Preece 8-11 .... N Adams 85
507 (4) 0061 LADY ECLAT 10 (V,CD,G) J Glover 8-11 .... S D Williams [illegible]
508 (8) 64 LOCH STYLE 10 R Hollinshead 8-11 .... F Lynch (7) 92
509 (6) 6 YEOMAN OLIVER 18 B McMahon 8-11 .... L Newton (5) 73
510 (5) 5435 MARINO STREET 12 P Evans 8-6 .... S Sanders 92
511 (7) 4046 MONKEY ZANTY 10 J L Harris 8-6 .... D Wright (3) 89
512 (11) PARELLIE C Hill 8-6 .... J Quinn –
513 (13) 002 QUINNTESSA 10 B Palling 8-6 .... R Perham 98

4-1 Marino Street, 9-2 Lady Eclat, 5-1 Loch Style, 6-1 Quinntessa, 7-1 Image Maker, 8-1 Flood's Fancy, 10-1 others.

3.45 RADIAL AND AXIAL GROUP HANDICAP
(Div I: £2,187: 7f) (12)

601 (3) 2040 LIVE PROJECT 21 (D,S) M Johnston 3-9-11 .... T Williams 87
602 (2) 0322 DEEPLY VALE 3 (D,S) G L Moore 4-9-11 .... S Whitworth [illegible]
603 (5) 5630 DON'T GET CAUGHT 12 J L Harris 3-9-11 .... J F Egan –
604 (10) 4002 BOGART 29 (D,G) C Fairhurst 4-9-7 .... J Tate 84
605 (9) 3304 MAPLE BAY 29 (CD,G) A Bailey 6-9-6 .... D Wright (3) 92
606 (4) 0106 CERTAIN WAY 3 (CD,G) N Littmoden 5-9-4 .... T G McLaughlin 93
607 (11) 4023 SWEET MATE 11 (B,G) S Bowring 3-9-4 .... S D Williams 85
608 (8) 5050 DREAM CARRIER 18 (CD,G) R Peacock 7-9-3 .... P McCabe (3) 88
609 (7) 0104 RESPECTABLE JONES 13 (D,F,G,S) R Hollinshead 9-8-12 .... M Wigham 80
610 (1) 0040 GREEN'S BID 10 (D,F,G) D Chapman 5-8-9 .... P Fessey (5) 83
611 (6) 0000 WOLVER MURPHY 68 K McAuliffe 3-8-9 .... J Quinn –
612 (12) 4000 JON'S CHOICE 13 (B,CD,G) B Preece 7-8-8 .... N Adams 85

4-1 Sweet Mate, 9-2 Respectable Jones, Bogart, 5-1 Deeply Vale, 7-1 Maple Bay, 8-1 Don't Get Caught, 12-1 Green's Bid, 14-1 others.

4.15 IMI AIR CONDITIONING AMATEUR RIDERS HANDICAP (Div II: £2,187: 1m 4f) (12)

1 (5) 0005 MOWLAIE 18 (F) D Chapman 4-11-7 .... Miss R Clark (5) 91
2 (9) 1442 PISTOLS AT DAWN 15 (CD,F,G,S) B Meehan 5-11-7 .... Miss J Allison 92
3 (12) 2546 ROUSITTO 26 (CD,F,G,S) R Hollinshead 7-11-6 .... M Rimell 89
4 (6) 0042 LARN FORT 11 (B,F,G,S) C Fairhurst 5-11-5 .... Mrs S Bosley 97
5 (2) 4601 STALLED 18 (D,F,G,S) P Walwyn 5-11-4 .... Marchioness Blandford (5) [illegible]
6 (8) 6003 MODEST HOPE 18 (D,F,G) B Richmond 8-10-9 .... Mrs L Pearce 98
7 (4) 0P2 BUCKLEY BOYS 8J A Bailey 4-10-9 .... Miss P Jones 94
8 (10) 0000 HILL FARM KATIE 227 (G) W Brisbourne 4-10-5 .... Miss Diana Jones 89
9 (11) /0-0 PETITJEAN 18J D Burchell 4-10-2 .... Miss E J Jones (5) –
10 (1) 0060 PHANAN 12 (D,F,G) R Peacock 9-9-12 .... Mrs C Peacock (5) 98
11 (3) 0300 BRESIL 18 (F) K Burke 6-9-9 .... Mrs H Sweeting (5) 97
12 (7) 6206 HUNZA STORY 15 (F) N Littmoden 3-9-3 .... M Salaman (5) 94

5-2 Stalled, 7-2 Larn Fort, 4-1 Pistols At Dawn, Buckley Boys, 9-2 Modest Hope, 10-1 Hill Farm Katie, 12-1 others.

4.45 RADIAL AND AXIAL GROUP HANDICAP
(Div II: £2,187: 7f) (12)

1 (1) 0214 JIGSAW BOY 3 (C,F,G,S) P Murphy 6-10-0 .... S Sanders [illegible]
2 (4) 4060 PRIVATE FIXTURE 144 (D,G) D Marks 4-9-13 .... M Tebbutt 85
3 (12) 0403 DESERT INVADER 18 (C,G,S) D Chapman 4-9-10 .... A Culhane 95
4 (8) 0001 TUIGAMALA 13 (D,F,G) R Ingram 4-9-8 .... T Ashley (7) 96
5 (6) -050 RAKIS 91 (D,G,S) M Brittain 5-9-6 .... D Wright (3) 90
6 (10) 3000 YOUNG BENSON 36 B McMahon 3-9-4 .... O Urbina 91
7 (3) 1050 FIRST GOLD 26 (D,F,G,S) J Wharton 6-9-4 .... S D Williams 98
8 (9) 0045 FLAMBORO 159 (D,G,S) J Berry 3-8-12 .... T Williams 94
9 (11) 0030 COLSTON-C 6 (BF,F) C Hill 3-8-12 .... S Whitworth 98
10 (7) -450 SNAKE PLISSKEN 88 D Haydn Jones 4-8-11 .... J Quinn 93
11 (2) -080 LIFE'S A BREEZE 255 (C,G) R Lee 6-8-9 .... J F Egan –
12 (5) 4144 NORTHERN SPARK 15 (D,G) Miss L Perratt 7-8-9 .... J Fanning 97

3-1 Jigsaw Boy, 4-1 Flamboro, Tuigamala, 9-2 Northern Spark, 5-1 Colston-C, 8-1 Desert Invader, 10-1 others.

Cambridge favourites to a degree for University match

Amateur ethos in safe hands

BY DAVID HANDS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT



Ashforth, the young Cambridge stand-off, sets his line in motion in the recent victory over the Western Samoans

THE social and sporting phenomenon that is the University rugby match will draw 71,000 people to Twickenham today, a world record for club rugby and, in many ways, a statement of faith in traditional values that rugby union, at the highest level, is in the process of losing.

That Oxford and Cambridge should be capable of sustaining such a profile in the professional era is to the credit of those who run the university clubs. Perhaps it could happen only in England, where sport and society frequently march hand in hand, but nobody should doubt the intensity of competition for the 30 players. For most of them, this will be the highlight of their careers in sport.

Cambridge, the holders of the Bowring Bowl and winners 52 times in the 113 matches played since 1872, will start the first match to be floodlit at Twickenham as warm favourites; an uneasy status, as Steve Cottrell, their captain, testifies. "The label is meaningless," he said. "You play a season up to the day of the game and then everything that has happened so far becomes irrelevant."

At least Cottrell should make it further than the programme this year. Forced to withdraw on the morning of the match by a severe haematoma, the New Zealander is that rare animal, a University-match captain who has yet to win his Blue. After today, he intends to be available next term for his successor and perhaps play club rugby with Rotherham, for whom he has signed.

For the moment, he and Tyrone Howe, his Irish opposite number, are revelling in the atmosphere of a fixture as old as any international series. "When I arrived in England, I didn't understand the tradition and the history, but very quickly the new players take that on board," Cottrell, who is working for a masters degree in law, said.

"The emphasis is on the club as a players' club, on the field and in committee. The players absorb the history and Oxbridge is held in such high regard — certainly in New Zealand — that even though the game's environment is changing, people will always want to come for the opportunities on offer, no matter what clubs may hold out to them."

Robert Ashforth, the freshman stand-off half from Bradford Grammar School and, at 19, the youngest man on the pitch, is one such player. Ashforth played full back for the England 18 Group schools side, and for the colts on tour in Canada last summer, and has always demonstrated remarkable composure for one so young — according to Geoff Wappett, his mentor, who also coaches England schools.

Ashforth suffered a serious knee injury during his final year at school which expunged a year from his sporting career, but Cambridge has completed his rehabilitation. It has also allowed him to demonstrate a propensity to make things happen, such as his towering dropped goal during the victory over the Western Samoans which ensured that the mantle of favouritism dropped over the Light Blues.

Howe, though, has experience on his side, as well as a unique cultural mix that embraces, for the first time in the fixture, a Frenchman as well as Canadians, South Africans and even the odd Englishman. Both Karl Svoboda, at 33 a veteran of the three World Cups, and Dan Penney have been capped by Canada, while the bigger the game, the better Nico Basson seems to play.

"If we play to our potential, we have a very good chance," Howe, an Ireland A representative, said. "There has not been the progression any captain would want this term, but there has been a distinct improvement in our performances."

Howe recognises the challenge posed by professionalism, which has threatened to marginalise university sport and has contributed to a somewhat haughty attitude adopted this season by certain clubs. "Anyone who watched the match last year would have recognised it as a true spectacle of how the game should be played," Howe said.

"There remains for many a certain attraction in the amateur ethos which both the universities hope to uphold. If they do, then players will still be drawn, to meet other rugby cultures and experience something that even internationals never forget."

For all that, the universities remain aware that they must sustain the quality of players involved at Twickenham, perhaps via sports scholarships, and the contribution that they make to the English game.

If Cambridge are to justify their status, they will do so through their Anglo-Australasian back row, their positive midfield and Ashforth's occasionally wayward goal-kicking. Oxford are similarly well-blessed in midfield, but have seldom found every facet of their play coming together at the same time. That may yet happen.

TODAY'S TEAMS AT TWICKENHAM

OXFORD UNIVERSITY		CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY	
P du Preez (Diocesan Coll, Cape Town and Keble)	15	M Singer (Wycliffe and Homerton)	
S Rush (Harrow and Mansfield)	14	D Casado (Ampleforth and St Edmund's)	
Q de Bruyn (Diocesan Coll, Cape Town and Keble)	13	T Whitford (The Leys and Homerton)	
J Riondet (Lycée La Kanal, Paris and Mansfield)	12	S Cottrell * (Christ's, NZ and St Edmund's, captain)	
T Howe * (Banbridge Acad and Keble, captain)	11	N Walne * (Caerleon CS and St Catharine's)	
D Humphreys (Ballymena Acad and St Cross)	10	R Ashforth (Bradford GS and Peterhouse)	
M Butler (King Edward VI, Lichfield and St Edmund Hall)	9	D Maslen (Rendcomb and St Edmund's)	
C Norton (St Andrew's, Grahamstown and Keble)	1	L Mooney * (St Boniface's, Plymouth and Hughes Hall)	
K Svoboda (Centennial Sec, Belleville and Templeton)	2	J Evans (Emmanuel GS, Swansea and Homerton)	
D Penney (St John's, Newfoundland and Wolfson)	3	N Holgate (Armthorpe CS and Robinson)	
M Reilly (St Gerard's, Bray and St Anne's)	6	M Hyde (St Ignatius, Sydney and St Edmund's)	
N Basson (Diocesan Coll, Cape Town and St Cross)	4	R Bramley * (QEGS Wakefield and St Edmund's)	
P Coveney * (Clongowes Wood, Kildare and New Coll)	5	C Simpson (Hills Rd Vlth Form Coll and Homerton)	
M Orsler (King's, Canterbury and Christ Church)	7	R Earnshaw (Yarm and St John's)	
R Yeabsley * (Haberdashers' Aske's and Keble)	8	S Sumridge (St Kentigern, Auckland and Wolfson)	

Referee: A Spreadbury (Somerset) * denotes a Blue Kick-off 2.30. TV: live on BBC1

REPLACEMENTS: 16 J Sackree (Wisbech GS and St Edmund Hall), 17 M Mermagen (St Bartholomew's, Newbury and Keble), 18 C Jones (Easthampstead Park, Wokingham and University), 19 J Britton (Wellington College and New College), 20 C McCarthy (St Mary's College, Dublin and Templeton), 21 J Bothwell (Marlborough and Merton)

REPLACEMENTS: 16 B Ryan (St Benedict's, Ealing and Homerton), 17 A Kennedy * (Fettes and St John's), 18 A Spencer * (Priestley Vlth Form College, Warrington and St John's), 19 D Brandt (UCS and Downing), 20 J Edwards (Coopers Company and Coburn, Upminster and St Catherine's), 21 J Cocks (Newington College, Sydney and St Edmund's).

Greenstock misses his opportunity to establish credentials

BY DAVID HANDS

WASPS received good and bad news in equal measure yesterday: their promising young centre, Nick Greenstock, will miss the game between England A and the Western Samoans tonight because of an ankle injury but their recent acquisition, Joe Worsley, will make his first appearance in the under-21 international match against Scotland which precedes it.

Greenstock has struggled to make an impression this season after his exciting emergence on the first-class scene last season. His place at Gateshead goes to Andrew Blyth, of West Hartlepool, who will be making his debut at this level in what is essentially a development XV rather than one with genuine pretensions to being an England second string.

Nevertheless, promising players such as Alex King, from Bristol University, and Phil Greening, of Gloucester, have the chance to confirm all the good things said of them during the CIS divisional championship. They will face the midweek Samoan team, who may be keen to sign off in style before the full international on Saturday. The touring side retain only three of the team that beat the South West 31-16 at the weekend.

England have never played Scotland at under-21 level and, after losing 23-10 to Ireland last month, they introduce several of those who were on the bench against the Irish. Worsley, the back-row forward capped by England Schools last season, has impressed the Wasps coaching staff since he joined the club and they will hope to see their initial judgment confirmed.

The final round of pool matches in the Heineken Cup are played today and tomorrow, with Toulouse expected to reach a home semi-final with Swansea by beating Treviso tonight (although the French club lost to Grenoble at the weekend, while Treviso were winning 53-22 at Livorno) and Ulster entertaining Bègles-Bordeaux at Ravenhill tomorrow.

Two of the Ulster international players, Paddy Johns and David Tweed, return to the pack for a game which Bègles must win by 41 points if they are to prevent Cardiff qualifying for a semi-final against Leinster.

ENGLAND A: T Stimpson (West Hartlepool); J Sleightholme (Bath), A Blyth (West Hartlepool), P Mensah (Harlequins), J Naylor (Orrell); A King (Bristol University), A Gomersall (Wasps); K Yates (Bath), P Greening (Gloucester), D Gerforth (Leicester), M Corry (Bristol), G Archer (Bristol), R West (Gloucester), R Hill (Saracens), A Diprose (Saracens, captain).

WESTERN SAMOANS: A Autagavaia; T Fasavalso, S Lesaga, K Tulgamala, F Feoso; C Burnes, M Vaea; B Reidy, O Malaulau, G Latu, L Tsala, S Lemamea, M Barkwhistle (captain), M Iupeli, S Smith.

RADIO CHOICE

A winner on points

The Heritage Quiz. *Radio 4, 12.25pm.*

No meaningless points are awarded in this quiz. Therefore, it gets Brownie points from me. Sue MacGregor chairs it. Extra points. No intelligence-insulting questions are asked, no clever-Dick replies given. Maximum points from me. The crop of posers range from "Why was the Penny Black replaced by the Penny Red?" and "Which British ruler was nicknamed Mrs Morley and/or Brandy Nan?" to "Why weren't there any letter flaps in our front doors before 1840?" and "Which cathedral has a memorial window to the first person to die in a British railway accident?". The panellists are Hunter Davies, Martin Wainwright, Philippa Gregory, and Christopher Cook.

Caribbean Christmas: Jon Connu Coming! *Radio 4, 4.45pm.*

Radio 4's pre-Christmas short story season begins unusually, with five tales set in the West Indies, written and read by Caribbean authors and actors. I have been looking at BBC Radio's Christmas schedules, and they feature more traditionally based stories by authors including Dickens, John Mortimer and Maeve Binchy. *Jon Connu Coming!* was written by James Berry and Akim Mogaji reads it. It is about a young lad who is lured away from church service by an itinerant company of dancers and musicians. These represent a pagan African culture that "civilised" Jamaicans, including the boy's religious father, prefer to forget about. It is a colourful story, packed with exotic adjectives and joyous verbal music.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. 4.00am Clive Warren 5.30 Chris Evans 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Lisa I'Anson, incl at 12.30-12.45pm Newsbeat; and at 1.15 The Net 2.00 Nicky Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier, incl at 5.30-5.45 Newsbeat 7.00 Evening Session 9.00 Cling Film 10.00 Mark Radcliffe 12.00 Wendy Lloyd

RADIO 2

FM Stereo 6.00am Sarah Kennedy 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Debbie Thrower 3.30 Ed Stewart 5.05 John Dunn 7.00 Hayes Over Britain 8.30 Sinatra: the Other Side (2/6) 9.00 John Hammond spotter 10.00 Tommy Steele Presents Harold Fielding (4/4) 10.30 The Jamesons 12.05am Steve Madden

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports 6.00 The Breakfast Programme, incl at 6.55 and 7.55 Racing Preview; 8.35 The Magazine, incl at 10.35 Euronews; 11.00 News; Daily News 12.00 Midday with Mair, incl at 12.34pm Moneycheck; and at 1.15 Entertainment News 2.05 Rescue on Five, incl at 3.15 Prime Minister's Question Time; 3.45 Entertainment News 4.00 John Inverdale Nationwide, incl at 5.45 Entertainment News 7.00 News Extra, incl 7.20 Sport 7.35 The Tuesday Match. 1998 World Cup qualifying draw, England v Portugal from Wembley 10.05 News Talk 11.00 Night Extra, incl at 11.15 The Financial World Tonight 12.05am After Hours 2.05 Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am Sandy Warr 7.00 Simon Bates 10.00 Jonathan King 12.00 Tommy Boyd 2.00pm Anna Raeburn 4.00 Scott Chisholm and Lowri Turner 7.00 Sean Bolger 9.00 Moz Dee 10.00 James Whale 1.00-6.00am Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. 5.00am Newsday 5.30 Europe Today 6.00 Newsday 6.30 Europe Today 7.00 World News 7.15 *Middlemarch* 7.30 New Ideas 7.50 Portrait of the Artist 8.00 World News 8.10 Words of Faith 8.15 Concert Hall 9.00 News in German 9.15 Counterpoint 9.45 Sport 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 BBC English 10.45 *Middlemarch* 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Drama: *The Wizard of Oz* 12.00 News 12.05pm World Business Report 12.15 Britain Today 12.30 Pick of the World 1.00 Newshour 2.00 World News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Multitrack 3.00 News in German 3.15 *On Screen* 3.30 *Omnibus* 4.00 News 4.15 The World Today 4.30 News in German 5.00 Europe Today 5.30 World Business Report 5.45 Sport 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 News in German 7.00 News 7.01 Outlook 7.25 Words of Faith 7.30 Megamix 8.00 Newshour 9.00 News 9.05 World Business Report 9.15 Britain Today 9.30 Meridian 10.00 Newsdesk 10.30 The World Today 10.45 Sport 11.00 News 11.10 Encore 11.15 Anything Goes 11.45 Country Style Midnight Newsdesk 12.30am What's News? 12.45 Britain 1.00 News 1.10 Press Review 1.15 On Screen 1.30 Ports of Call 2.00 Newsday 2.30 Andy Kershaw 3.00 News 3.15 Sport 3.30 Discovery 4.00 Newsdesk 4.30 Europe

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths 6.00 Nick Bailey 9.00 Henry Kelly 12.00 Susannah Simons 2.00pm Concerto 3.00 Jamie Crick 6.00 Newsnight 6.30 Sonata 7.00 The Opera Guide 8.00 Concert 10.00 Michael Meppin 1.00am Sally Peterson

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono's Breakfast Experience 9.00 Richard Skinner 12.00 Graham Dene 4.00pm Nicky Horne 7.30 Paul Coyle 10.00 Mark Forrest 2.00-6.00am Robin Banks

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air, with Andrew McGregor Debussy (Nocturnes: Los Angeles PO); Bach (Orchestral Suite No 2 in B minor); Mozart (Symphony No 31 in D, Paris); Charpentier (Noels sur les instruments); 8.05 Glinka (Overture, Ruslan and Ludmilla); Purcell; a selection of songs

9.00 Morning Collection with Paul Gambaccini. Myslivecek (Sinfonia in E flat: Prague CO); Mozart (Scaive sia il vento, Cosi fan tutte: Soloists: Philharmonia Orchestra under Herbert von Karajan); Beethoven (Sonata in C minor); Deg Wiren (Serenade for Strings)

10.00 Musical Encounters. Byrd (Tribue Domine a 6); Purcell (Suite No 3 in G); Skempton (Song of the Year's Turning); Bach (Allein Gott in der Hoch); Miaskovsky (Symphony No 21); Chopin (Impromptu in A flat); Holst (Double Concerto); 11.00 Finzi (Magnificat); Mozart (Piano Concerto No 21 in D)

12.00 Composer of the Week: Copland (Symphonic Ode; Variations for piano; Symphony No 2, Short Symphony; Piano Concerto)

1.00pm News; The BBC Orchestras. BBC Philharmonic under Yan Pascal Tortelier performs Stravinsky (Symphony of Psalms); Beethoven (Symphony No 9 in D minor)

2.30 Music from the Austrian Courts, introduced by Penny Gore. Trio Sonnerie performs music by Bertali, Schmelzer, Young and Froberger

3.30 Britten's Apprenticeship. Paul Hindmarsh and Philip Reed consider the music with which Benjamin Britten launched his career

5.00 The Music Machine in Chicago. Tommy Pearson visits the Orchestra Hall

5.15 In Tune, with Mairi Nicolson. Szymanowski (Study); Haydn (Airs from Vauxhall Gardens); 6.04 Britten (Evening; Morning; Night)

7.30 Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment; Tavener Choir under Andrew Parrott, live from St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol. Handel (Coronation Anthem No 1, Zadok the Priest; Concerto a due cori No 3 in F; Coronation Anthem No 4, My Heart is Inditing); 8.10 **Handel's England**, with Jonathan Keates; 8.30 Handel (Coronation Anthem No 2, Let Thy Hand Be Strengthened; Music for the Royal Fireworks)

9.15 Lumière's Children. The introduction of Technicolor, followed by Eastman colour, in film

9.40 Bach Cello Suites. Suite No 5 in C minor

10.10 The BBC Orchestras. BBC Scottish SO under Jerzy Maksymiuk performs Borodin (Symphony No 2 in B minor)

10.45 Night Waves. A first-night review of Lesley Garrett in *La Belle Vivette*, Michael Frayn's reworking of Offenbach's *La Belle Hélène*

11.30-12.30am Music Restored. The 18th- and early 19th-century repertory of accompanied keyboard chamber music

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW only) 6.00 News Briefing, incl 6.03 Weather 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day with the Rev Lesley Carroll 6.30 Today, incl 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 6.55, 7.55 Weather 7.25, 8.25 Sport 7.45 Thought for the Day with Charles Handy 8.40 Yesterday in Parliament 8.58 Weather

9.00 News 9.05 Call Nick Ross: 0171-580 4444

10.00 Daily Service (LW only)

10.15 This Sceptr'd Isle (LW only)

10.00-10.30 La Mia Italia (FM only): Visiting Velletri. William Ward examines the changing nature of the Italian health service (2/4)

10.30 Woman's Hour, introduced by Jenni Murray. Serial: *Clean Break*, by Val McDermid. Read by Clare Higgins (7/13)

11.30 Medicine Now, presented by Geoff Watts

12.00 News; You and Yours, with Tasneem Siddiqi

12.25pm The Heritage Quiz. See Choice **12.55** Weather

1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke

1.40 The Archers (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast

2.00 Thirty Minute Theatre: May and the Snowman, by Jane Buckle. May begins to a harbour romantic notions after a pupil builds a snowman on her front lawn. With Jan Pearson and Michael Povey. Narrated by Simon Harris

2.30 Personal Records. Jeremy Nicholas explores Cleo Laine's and John Dankworth's record collection (3/6)

3.00 The Afternoon Shift, with Dare Brehan

4.00 News 4.05 Kaleidoscope reviews *La Belle Vivette*, Michael Frayn's reworking of Offenbach's *La Belle Hélène*; and discusses the art of the modern ghost story

4.45 Short Story: Jon Connu Coming! See Choice

5.00 PM, with Jon Sopel and Nigel Wrench 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather

6.00 Six O'Clock News

6.30 Rent, by Lucy Flannery (5/6) (r)

7.00 News 7.05 The Archers

7.20 File on 4. Jolyon Jenkins reports

8.00 Science Now (r)

8.30 Memories of a Childhood on the Veldt. Sir Laurens van der Post recalls his early life in South Africa

9.00 In Touch. Peter White invites listeners to ring Ian Bruce, the Director General of the Royal National Institute for the Blind

9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) 9.59 Weather

10.00 The World Tonight, with Isabel Hilton

10.45 Book at Bedtime: The Go-Between, by L.P. Hartley. John Rowe reads the second of ten parts

11.00 Mediumwave. Events in the media(r)

11.30-12.00 The New Europeans (FM only): Christopher Abbey talks about life in Leipzig. With David Lodge (r)

11.30 Today in Parliament (LW only)

12.00 News, incl 12.27am Weather

12.30 The Late Book: Sucking Sherbert Lemons. David Holt reads Michael Carson's novel (7/10)

12.40 Shipping Forecast 1.00 As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. RADIO 2. FM 88.0-90.2. RADIO 3. FM 90.2-92.4. RADIO 4. FM 92.4-94.8; LW 198; MW 720. RADIO 5 LIVE. MW 693, 909. WORLD SERVICE. MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). CLASSIC FM. FM 100-102. VIRGIN RADIO. FM and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Gillian Maxey, Rosemary Smith and Susan Thomson

VH-1 is available on cable and satellite.

Dear Diary,

Tried out my new treehouse.
I love it but the postman and milkman are not so keen.
Anyway, flicked on VH-1 which was showing 'The Housemartins' at 6.00pm. This reminded me of my student days and nights in Hull and the 'Spiders' nightclub up there, which did quadruples for £1.20.
I can't remember much more than that.

VH-1
Where music means something.

Britons prepare for final reckoning

FROM COLIN MCQUILLAN IN BOMBAY

CHRIS WALKER, the England squash captain, and Peter Nicol, the Scottish champion, yesterday created the first all-British final of the Professional Squash Association Super Series and, in doing so, brought Australian domination of the Mahindra Challenge tournament to an abrupt halt.

Walker disposed of Rodney Eyles, the 1994 champion, 17-16, 15-5, 11-15, 5-15, 15-12 in 81 minutes before Nicol beat the 1993 winner, Brett Martin, 15-8, 15-7, 15-9 in just 49 minutes. Thus two Britons — indeed, the same two Britons — will contest a world tour final for the first time since the US Open in 1994, a final that Nicol won over five games. That match and this year's Indian sequel are the only finals between two completely left-handed players to have been played in the modern game.

Walker, 28, from Essex, took on Eyles at his own slow-paced but shot-filled game on a sultry open air Perspex court at the Cricket Club of India. He battled through the first game tie-break, forced Eyles to give away the second game from 5-10 down and then returned to win with some courage before a noisy, enthusiastic Indian audience.

Nicol's success was less surprising but nevertheless a significant return for a 22-year-old whose second year on the world tour had fallen away after a fine start. He beat Martin, the Australian No 2, four times in five meetings last year and this result brings him to one-all this year.

"You could say I know how to play him." Nicol said last night after a disciplined display that drove one of the game's most relaxed and unconsciously aggressive players in the game into an angry, error-filled performance. Unusually, Martin attracted a conduct warning for smashing his racket into the back wall after losing a point to a disputed penalty stroke when 6-8 down in the third game.

Both Australians departed the court with little love left for their referees, but Mike Picken, of England, in what might be his retiring performance after 25 years of officiating at the sport's highest level, handled the match between Walker and Eyles with some aplomb, while Peter Highstead, of New Zealand, could hardly have saved Martin had he wanted to.

"It was a hard match and needed a big effort in the fifth," Walker said afterwards. "Rodney never gives you an easy day. Every time you get close, he pulls out something new.

"Maybe all the squash he has played over the past couple of months worked for me in the fifth. He had to work a bit to get past Mark Cairns in the quarter-finals too."

Walker also had to work in the quarter-finals, beating the in-form England No 1, Simon Parke, in three exhausting games that foreshadowed the movement and invention with which he out-played the defending champion last night. Parke had led England to world team victory in Cairo last month while Walker, out of form it was said, captained from the bench.

POOLS FORECAST

Saturday December 16 unless stated
Coupon No, fixture, forecast

FA PREMIERSHIP
1 Arsenal v Chelsea 1
2 Aston Villa v Coventry 1
3 Blackburn v Middlesbro X
4 *Man City v Nott'm F X
5 Newcastle v Everton 1
6 QPR v Bolton X
7 Sheff Wed v Leeds 1
8 West Ham v South'pton 1
9 Wimbledon v Tottenham 1
Not on coupons: Liverpool v Manchester United (Sunday)

FIRST DIVISION
10 Barnsley v Charlton 2
11 Grimsby v Southend X
12 Hudd'field v WBA X
13 Ipswich v Sheff Utd 1
14 Millwall v Derby 2
15 Portsmouth v Luton 1
16 Reading v Sunderland 2
17 Watford v Tranmere 1
Not on coupons: Leicester v Norwich (Sunday); Oldham v Birmingham; Stoke v Crystal Palace; Wolves v Port Vale

SECOND DIVISION
18 Blackpool v Bradford 1
19 Bourn'm'th v Stockp't 1
20 Bristol R v Oxford 2
21 Carlisle v Walsall X
22 Chest'field v Brentford 1
23 Notts Co v Crewe X
24 Peterboro v Roth'h'm 2
25 Shrewsbury v Brighton 1
26 Swansea v Burnley 2
27 Swindon v Wrexham 1
28 Wycombe v Bristol C 1
29 York v Hull 1

THIRD DIVISION
30 Bury v Gillingham 2
31 Chester v Preston X
32 Colchester v Scunthorpe 1
33 Darlington v Barnet 1
34 Doncaster v Leyton O 1
35 Exeter v Rochdale X
36 Fulham v North'pton 1
37 Hartlepool v Camb'ge 1
38 Lincoln v Plymouth X
39 Mansfield v Cardiff X
40 Torquay v Scarboro 1
41 Wigan v Hereford 1

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE
42 Ards v Glentoran X
43 Crusaders v Bangor 1
44 Glenavon v Cliftonville 1
45 Linfield v Portadown 2

SCOTTISH PREMIER
46 Aberdeen v Hearts 1
47 Celtic v Falkirk 1
48 Hibernian v Raith 2
49 Kilmarnock v Partick 1

SCOTTISH FIRST
50 Dundee v St J'stone 1
51 Dund'mino v Airdrie 1
52 G Morton v Dundee U 2
53 Hamilton v Dumbarton 1
54 St Mirren v Clydebank 2

SCOTTISH SECOND
55 Berwick v Montrose 1
56 Clyde v East Fife X
57 C of Stn v Stirling 2
Not on coupons: Forfar v Stranraer; Stenhousemuir v Ayr

SCOTTISH THIRD
58 Cowdenbeath v Caledonian 1
Not on coupons: Brechin v Livingston, East Stirling v Albion; Queen's Park v Arbroath; Ross v Alloa

* Pools panel to adjudicate

DRAWS (home teams): Blackburn, Queens Park Rangers, Grimsby, Huddersfield, Carlisle, Notts County, Chester, Exeter, Lincoln, Mansfield, Ards, Clyde
BEST DRAWS: Blackburn, Carlisle, Chester, Exeter, Lincoln.
AWAYS: Charlton, Sunderland, Oxford, Burnley, Gillingham
HOMES: Sheffield Wednesday, Ipswich, Portsmouth, Chesterfield, Wycombe, Darlington, Doncaster, Fulham, Torquay, Crusaders, Celtic, Kilmarnock.
FIXED ODDS: Homes: Sheffield Wednesday, Ipswich, Chesterfield, Doncaster, Crusaders. Aways: Charlton, Sunderland, Burnley. Draws: Carlisle, Chester, Lincoln

☐ Vince Wright

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 43

BOMBILATE

(b) To make a humming, buzzing or droning sound, from the Latin. Bombilation is the noise made by a well-meaning father trying to show he is with it by singing along with your Genesis tapes in the car.

MANDUCATE

(a) To chew or eat (with figurative overtones. "to make a meal out of something", to fret away at it). "I will say no more about your behaviour tonight, Bill. It has already been the topic of more than adequate manducation by your mother."

BAVARDAGE

(b) Foolish or idle chatter. From the French. It attracts the adjective *mere*, in contradistinction to words such as *balderdash* and *poppycock*, which prefer the epithet *absolute*.

PLENILUNARY

(c) Pertaining to the full moon. From the Latin *plenus, plena, plenum* full + *luna* the moon. Useful for disingenuous excuses. "I am sorry, Rachel: we should have loved to have come round tonight. But it's that time of the month again, and we have to think of poor Nigel's alarming plenilunary condition."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1, Qa7+! Kxa7: 2. Rx:7+ Ka8: 3, Nxbb mate.

هكذا من الأصل

Big Ben, old Benn and a bad time for Janet

REVIEW



Matthew Bond

The most sibilant "s" in British politics stalked the Palace of Westminster last night. But long gone are the days when Anthony Wedgwood Benn, Viscount Stansgate, Tony Benn, whoever, struck fear into the middle classes. These days he is very much the elder statesman and, thanks to his tape-recorded diaries, valued chronicler of our political times.

Last night he swapped Dictaphone for video camera to bring us **Westminster Behind Closed Doors, with Tony Benn** (BBC2). An affectionate portrait of the Parliament he both loves and loathes, the programme confirmed that while the thought is still radical, the message nowadays comes coated in icing sugar. Literally, in the case of the Houses of Parliament cake he was presented with on his 70th birthday. Carefully he lined up the first slice. "Who'd like the House of Lords?"

His theme, as it has been for the best part of five decades as an MP, was that Parliament should be a working legislature, rather than a museum. To that end he deliberately chose to go among the working people, such as Gina, who runs the members' cafeteria and who once dropped fish in Enoch Powell's soup; Chris, who vacuums the red carpet for the State Opening and Brian, who takes people up to Big Ben and finds the climb much harder since he gave up smoking.

Coming from a politician of more recent vintage, such an approach would have been patronising. But Benn, his viewfinder regularly obscured by clouds of pipe smoke, just about got away with it, helped by the fact that while he is still formidable as an interviewee (we witnessed him inflicting grievous moral harm upon some hapless overseas news team), he is actually no great shakes when the microphone is in his hand. Indeed, so benign was the approach that you half expected him to ask his subjects to choose a favourite piece of music at the end of each interview.

Political metaphor he offered in the form of an exploration of the hierarchy of lavatories that exists at Westminster. Bishops have their own loos, as do peers — and so the segregation continued, he explained, down via lavatories fit respectively for MPs and working staff, to the lowest of the low — the stainless steel lavatory in Parliament's remaining prison cell.

With evident relish Benn took his camera down to where, regardless of rank or birth, it all ends up — the sewage ejector plant. As an exercise in egalitarianism and engineering it was fascinating, but what I wanted to know was whether Brian, the chap who runs it, begins each shift with a cry of "Ordure, ordure".

From the sibilant "s", we moved on to the best-known teeth in television and **Nightmare at Canary Wharf** (BBC2). This, we were advised, was the story of Janet Street-Porter's foray into the cable television revolution. What it actually turned out to be was a retelling of the legend of Icarus, a tale of how Street-Porter flew too close to a former Editor of *The Sun*.

It may be a year since Street-Porter left the BBC but there was enough fashionably wobbly camera work in Robert Thirkell's documentary to suggest that the former head of youth programming was among friends as she began a new career at Live TV, a cable channel owned by Mirror Group Newspapers.

Initially all went well, with the camera being granted access to high-level meetings and Street-Porter providing both the live action dialogue and a few voiced-over afterthoughts. The air was heady with optimism, and thick with strangulated diphthongs.

But then, as she and her team struggled valiantly to get the channel on air for the bargain basement price of £2,000 a hour, the demon king arrived. Kelvin MacKenzie was appointed to oversee all the Mirror Group's television interests.

The programme rather glossed over the origins of the bad blood that exists between MacKenzie and Street-Porter, as I shall too. Not only was it quickly clear that the pair did not get on, but they also had very different approaches to wandering camera crews. Street-Porter was happy to have them recording the highs and increasing lows of an already doomed career at Canary Wharf. MacKenzie, by contrast, only invited them in when he had worked out something clever to say. It was *contrived but wonderfully* effective.

Any success Live TV might have, he generously conceded, would be down to Street-Porter's brilliance. Failure, however, would result in a rather different process: "We would have to reassess, re-evaluate and all the other words beginning with re, including the word rehire." A few minutes later, Street-Porter's corporate wings melted in the heat.

Turning to **The X-Files** (BBC2) for a little light relief, I found myself musing on the origins of Ansaphone acting — you know, all that "Scully, it's Mulder — pick up the phone" sort of stuff. I think it probably dates back to *The Rockford Files* and "Hi, this is Jim Rockford . . ." Since then of course, the technique has advanced considerably, with modern drama able to advance for several scenes without any of the major characters having to meet each other.

Last night, for example, there were minutes of the stuff, as Mulder, Scully and two answering machines set off in pursuit of strange beings that turned to green goo when pricked. For all its silliness, the tension was cleverly maintained. Part two comes next week, but I'm pretty sure I already know who is behind it all . . . I'll get back to you after the tone.

BBC1

6.00am Business Breakfast (90744)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (47967947)

9.10 Kilroy (s) (5748247)

10.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (8863283) **10.05 Can't Cook, Won't Cook** (s) (5381314)

10.30 Good Morning with Anne and Nick (s) (92034)

12.00 News (Ceefax) regional news and weather (8687725) **12.05pm Pebble Mill** (s) (5833657) **12.50 Regional News** and weather (64772102)

1.00 One O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (55386)

1.30 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (96215251) **1.50 Chris De Burgh: Beautiful Dreams** (s) (36391657)

2.20 Rugby Union — The Varsity Match, introduced by Steve Rider (s) (227164)

4.10 Popeye and Son (r) (8930763) **4.25 Animal Hospital** (s) (8282454) **4.35 It'll Never Work** (Ceefax) (s) (1211015)

5.00 Newsround (Ceefax) (3645522) **5.10 The Biz** (Ceefax) (s) (8003251)

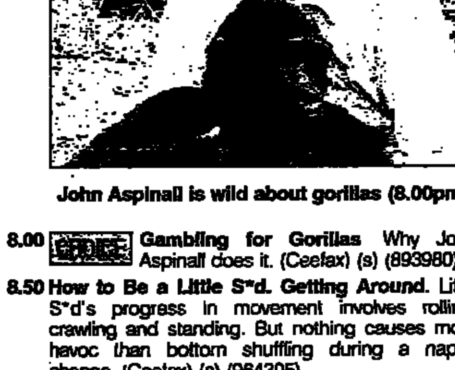
5.35 Neighbours (r) (Ceefax) (s) (562980)

6.00 Six O'Clock News (Ceefax) and weather (367)

6.30 Regional News magazines (947)

7.00 Holiday Jill Dando takes a Mediterranean cruise costing less than £400; Carol Smillie goes horse-riding in Andalucia; Chris Chor and Paul Wooding experience nausea, shortage of breath and hallucinations trying an unusual package holiday climbing Mount Kilimanjaro; and Monty Don goes on a father and son rugby weekend (1788)

7.30 EastEnders. Roy is in festive mood but Pat is haunted by the ghost of Christmas Past while Gita gets ready for her hot date. (Ceefax) (s) (831)



John Aspinall is wild about gorillas (8.00pm)

8.00 CHOICE **Gambling for Gorillas** Why John Aspinall does it. (Ceefax) (s) (893980)

8.50 How to Be a Little S*d. Getting Around. Little S*d's progress in movement involves rolling, crawling and standing. But nothing causes more havoc than bottom shuffling during a nappy change. (Ceefax) (s) (984305)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax) regional news and weather (9893)

9.30 An Evening with Sir Peter Ustinov. Peter Ustinov concludes his one-man show at the Royal Alexandra Theatre, Toronto. Part 1 shown on Sunday (2/2) (349251) **WALES: 9.30** Satellite City (42544) **10.00** The Dragon Writes Back (790183) **10.10** An Evening with Sir Peter Ustinov (693134) **10.55** Sportsnight (8022034) **12.20am** Film: Glitz (5200139) **1.40-1.45** News Headlines and weather (2164481)

10.15 Sportsnight, including highlights from England's friendly against Portugal at Wembley and action from the replays of the second round of the FA Cup (s) (8382638) **11.30 FILM: Glitz** (1988) with Jimmy Smits, Markie Post and Robin Strausser. A Miami cop's convalescence from a gunshot wound is cut short by the news that his girlfriend has been murdered. Based on the book by Elmore Leonard. Directed by Sandor Stern (Ceefax) (s) (87928)

1.00am Weather (2853481)

BBC2

6.00am Technology Season

7.00 Breakfast News (Signing) (9191560) **7.15 Lassie** (2800676) **7.40 Swat Kats** (r) (s) (7722218) **8.05 Blue Peter** (r). (Ceefax) (s) (2183893) **8.35 The Record** (s) (7523299) **9.00 Birth Of the Bomb** (3393980) **9.50 Prue Leith's Tricks of the Trade** (r) (3174812) **10.00 Playdays** (r) (s) (6731855)

10.25 FILM: All in Good Fun (1956, b/w). Silent movie compilation (4788638) **11.10 The Fugitive** (b/w) (r). (Ceefax) (8674183) **12.00 See Hear!** (r) (s) (72164) **12.30pm Working Lunch** (12270)

1.00 Spot (r) (26129367) **1.05 Juniper Jungle** (r) (s) (48956305) **1.15 Movie Magic** (r) (44508183) **1.40 Glynn Christian** (s) (15595015) **1.55 Understanding Cats** (15585638) **2.10 Randall and Hopkirk (Deceased)** (r) (9742164)

3.00 News (Ceefax) **Westminster with Nick Ross** (2850541) **3.55 News** (Ceefax) (9682183)

4.00 Today's the Day (s) (560) **4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook** (s) (744) **5.00 Esther** (1034) **5.30 Still in Business** (r) (540893) **5.45 Turning Points** (742270)

5.50pm Human Rights, Human Wrongs: Weapons and Human Rights. With Archbishop Desmond Tutu (s) (763763)

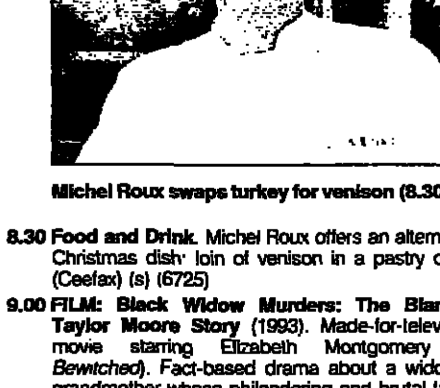
6.00 Fresh Prince Of Bel Air (r) (s) (513544)

6.25 Heartbreak High (Ceefax) (s) (455183)

7.10 Dear Dilemma. Lisa I'Anson is joined by Ian Kelsey, from the cast of *Emmerdale* and Jadine from *Don't Forget Your Toothbrush* (Ceefax) (s) (695218)

7.30 From the Edge. Series made by disabled people. (Ceefax) (s) (473)

8.00 CHOICE **The Limit: The Longest Bridge.** With Robbie Coltrane (s) (7218)



Michel Roux swaps turkey for venison (8.30pm)

8.30 Food and Drink. Michel Roux offers an alternative Christmas dish: loin of venison in a pastry crust (Ceefax) (s) (6725)

9.00 FILM: Black Widow Murders: The Blanche Taylor Moore Story (1993). Made-for-television movie starring Elizabeth Montgomery (of *Bewitched*). Fact-based drama about a widowed grandmother whose philandering and brutal father turned her against men Directed by Alan Metzger. (Ceefax) (8164)

10.30 Newsnight. (Ceefax) (648454)

11.15 Picture This: Playing Out (r). (Ceefax) (s) (289034)

11.45 Human Rights, Human Wrongs (r) (s) (954980) **11.55 Weather** (139744)

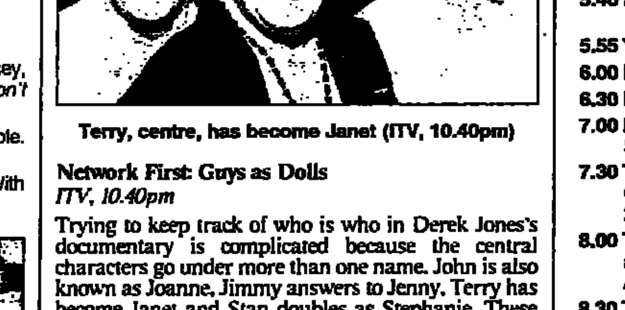
12.00 The Midnight Hour with Sarah Baxter (s) (41348) **12.30am-6.00 The Learning Zone**

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CHOICE

Gambling For Gorillas
BBC1, 8.00pm

Over the past seven years the eccentric gaming millionaire John Aspinall has built up the world's largest captive colony of gorillas at his zoo near Canterbury. He also runs a gorilla sanctuary in Brazzaville, capital of the Congo. But he wants to be the first man to return gorillas to the wild and the cameras are there to follow his dream. The destination of the "Brazzaville Six" is a rainforest 150 miles away and there are doubts whether the gorillas will survive the long journey. Meanwhile, back in England, a keeper is killed by a tiger. But Aspinall, whose sympathies tend to lie with animals rather than human beings, threatens to close the zoo rather than submit to the council's new safety measures.



Terry, centre, has become Janet (ITV, 10.40pm)

Network First: Guys as Dolls
ITV, 10.40pm

Trying to keep track of who is who in Derek Jones's documentary is complicated because the central characters go under more than one name. John is also known as Joanne, Jimmy answers to Jenny, Terry has become Janet and Stan doubles as Stephanie. These are all men who dress up as women. For Terry/Janet the revelation of his transvestism scuppered his marriage. The other three, perhaps surprisingly, have managed to keep their partners. Pat, who is married to Stan/Stephanie, says their relationship is stronger than ever. And despite a rocky patch when they both took to drink. Dianne has come to accept that her husband, a former soldier and a man's man, has a need to wear women's clothes.

Without Walls
Channel 4, 9.00pm

Scour the 3,000 or so pages of Marcel Proust's *Remembrance of Things Past* and you should be struck by the number of references to food. If you are Professor Albert Sonnenfeld you will detect a sensual, even erotic, connotation to this culinary obsession. And if Professor Sonnenfeld's thesis about Proust, life, food and sex fails to convince, it still makes a diverting film. No less fascinating is the second *Without Walls* item, on ghostwriters. Rosemary Kingsland is a veteran of the trade, having taken on Elizabeth Emanuel, the dress designer, and P.J. Proby, the trouser-splitting pop star. As often happens with these collaborations, tensions soon surfaced as the subjects decided they had said too much and tried to pull back.

The Limit: Longest Bridge
BBC2, 8.00pm

The series on engineering feats visits Denmark to report on the construction of the first bridge with a single span of more than one mile. The portents for Niels Gimsing's vision are not entirely favourable. Pushing bridge design to the limit has resulted in spectacular disasters. One, in the United States, is recalled in all its horror on archive film. But Gimsing is nothing if not tenacious. His original plan for a *bridge to straddle the Great Belt, a 12-mile stretch of* sea, goes back to the 1960s. Work finally started two years ago. The scale and ambition of the project are breathtaking. Apart from the record span, the towers stand higher that Britain's tallest building, Canary Wharf.

Peter Waymark

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (8645096) **9.25 Supermarket Sweep** (s) (8723096) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) (3381134)

10.00 The Time . . . The Place (s) (2592763) **10.35 This Morning** (28536589) **12.20pm London Today** (Teletext) (8683909)

12.30 ITN Lunchtime News (Teletext) and weather (2441947) **12.55 Home and Away** (Teletext) (2426638) **1.25 Emmerdale** (r) (Teletext) (44515473) **1.55 A Country Practice** (s) (96243034)

2.20 Vanessa (Teletext) (s) (18191015)

2.50 Capital Woman (s) (5662270)

3.20 ITN News headlines (8157657) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) (8156928)

3.30 Giggish Allsorts (s) (3885744) **3.40 Tots TV** (s) (6053725) **3.50 Hot Rod Dogs** (s) (3889560) **4.05 The Twisted Tales of Felix the Cat** (8900522) **4.20 The Sylvester and Tweety Mysteries** (8912367) **4.40 Art Attack Christmas Cracker 1995** (Teletext) (1595015)

5.10 After 5 with Caron Keating. Ken Andrews joins the cast of *Emmerdale* on location as they prepare for Christmas (2538928)

5.40 ITN Early Evening News (Teletext) and weather (836102)

5.55 Your Shout. Viewers air their views (735980)

6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (763)

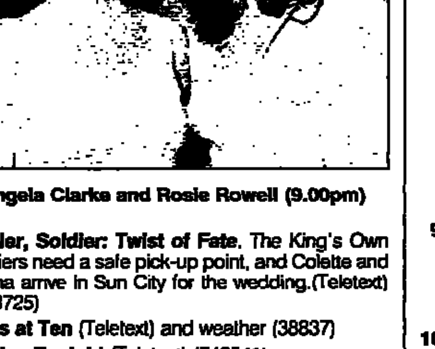
6.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (265)

7.00 Emmerdale. Frank is bursting with good news and Sarah brings glad tidings for Nick and Alice (5096)

7.30 The Tuesday Special: Brief Encounters. Outspoken duty solicitor Gary Jacobs describes his 24-hour cover of London police stations (s) (299)

8.00 The Bill: Natural Justice. Cryer and Keane go after a drunk driver responsible for the death of a young Asian woman (Teletext) (4744)

8.30 The Cook Report. Roger Cook and his team challenge more unsavoury characters (3251)



Angela Clarke and Rosie Rowell (9.00pm)

9.00 Soldier, Soldier: Twist of Fate. The King's Own Fusiliers need a safe pick-up point, and Colette and Donna arrive in Sun City for the wedding.(Teletext) (s) (3725)

10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (38837)

10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (743541)

10.40 CHOICE **Network First: Guys as Dolls.** (Teletext) (381522)

11.40 Prisoner Cell Block H (605909)

12.40 FILM: Vampire in Venice (1987) Klaus Kinski *searches for Venetian virgins and Christopher* Plummer, a vampire scholar, is determined to thwart him. Unintentional comic effect by writer-director Augusto Caminito (s) (397058)

2.20 Cinema, Cinema, Cinema (r) (s) (8204961)

2.45 The Beat (s) (635348)

3.45 America's Top Ten (s) (74464023)

4.10 On the Live Side (r) (s) (21001139)

4.30 Videofashion: Milan's Soft Side. With Emporio Armani, MaxMara, Ferretti and Genny (34139)

5.00 Vanessa (r) (Teletext) (s) (52987)

5.30 ITN Morning News (39503). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.30am Ulysses 31 Cartoon series (r) (16909)

7.00 The Big Breakfast With Dubstar (45909)

9.00 FILM: Thin Ice (1937) starring Sonja Henie and Tyrone Power (7560386)

10.25 FILM: My Lucky Star (1938) starring Sonja Henie and Cesar Romero Directed by Roy Del Ruth (42520454)

12.00 House To House Political magazine (90560)

12.30pm Sesame Street (50183) **1.30 Widget** (r) (s) (36308947) **1.55 Son For Sail** (Short Film) (96227096)

2.20 FILM: The Man I Love (1946) starring Ida Lupino, Robert Alda and Andrea King. Directed by Raoul Walsh. (Teletext) (507947)

4.00 Think Tank Team quiz (Teletext) (s) (928) **4.30 Fifteen To One** Knockout quiz (812)

5.00 The Montel Williams Show: Mother and Daughter Alcholics. Two girls, aged 14, and their parents, talk about the teenagers being alcoholics. (Teletext) (s) (7129676)

5.45 Terrytoons with Gandy Goose (833015)

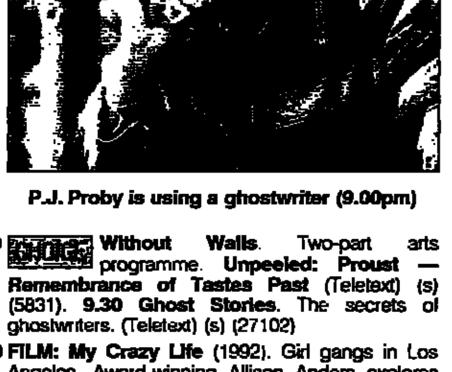
6.00 The Avengers: The Bird Who Knew Too Much. When a secret agent is found dead, with birdseed in his pocket, the Avengers fly to the rescue. (r) (Teletext) (22657)

7.00 Channel 4 News including at 7.30 headlines and weather. (Teletext) (394893)

7.55 The Slot Viewers' video soapbox (623251)

8.00 Dosh. Money advice magazine presented by Shami Ahmed, the self-made millionaire businessman. This week: some unlikely-sounding but money-making shops and some suggestions on how you can win a payrise from your boss (Teletext) (s) (2386)

8.30 Brookside. Patricia has grand ideas to expand the Farnham Empire, Gary realises that Jimmy is running more than a taxi business and Mo gives Rosie an ultimatum over her winnings. (Teletext) (s) (1893)



P.J. Proby is using a ghostwriter (9.00pm)

9.00 CHOICE **Without Walls.** Two-part arts programme. **Unpeeled: Proust — Remembrance of Tastes Past** (Teletext) (s) (5831). **9.30 Ghost Stories.** The secrets of ghostwriters. (Teletext) (s) (27102)

10.00 FILM: My Crazy Life (1992). Girl gangs in Los Angeles. Award-winning Allison Anders explores the Mexican-American women's friendships, loves and rivalries as they fight to establish their own personality and an identity separate from their men, who are often dead or in jail before they are 20. Starring Angel Aviles, Seidy Lopez, Jacob Vargas and Mario Marron. British television premiere. (Teletext) (s) (469544)

11.45 Nurses. Black comedy series set in a Miami hospital. (Teletext) (s) (273473)

12.15am Football Italia — Mezzanotte. Milan line up against Napoli (541955)

1.15 Love Stories: La Signora in Verde. In Italian with English subtitles (64738329)

2.15 Feet Don't Fail Me Now. American jazz music and dance (r) Ends at **3.20** (2495416)

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Anglia News and Weather (3381134) **12.20pm-12.30** Anglia News (8683909) **12.55** Emmerdale (2426638) **1.25-1.55** Home and Away (44515473) **2.50-3.20** Marquee (5662270) **3.25-3.30** Anglia News and Weather (8156928) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (2538928) **6.25** Anglia Weather (716980) **6.30-7.00** Anglia News (265) **7.30-8.00** Heirloom (299) **10.30-10.40** Anglia News (743541) **12.40am** Film: The Murder That Wouldn't Die (289110) **2.15** The Little Picture Show (636077) **3.15** The Beat (2685684) **4.05** The New Music (9335665)

CENTRAL

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Central News (3381134) **12.20pm-12.30** Central News and Weather (8683909) **2.50-3.20** The Lady Killers (5662270) **3.25-3.30** Central News (8156928) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (2538928) **6.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (721638) **10.30-10.40** Central News and Weather (743541) **11.40** Tour of Duty (605909) **4.10am** Jobfinder (5822752) **5.20** Asian Eye (1970936)

GRANADA

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Granada News (3381134) **12.20pm-12.30** Granada News (8683909) **12.55-1.25** Shortland Street (2426638) **1.25** Home and Away (89488725) **1.50** Vanessa (36386725) **2.20** Simply Delicious at Christmas (18191015) **2.50-3.20** Emmerdale (5662270) **3.25-3.30** Granada News (8156928) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (2538928) **6.25-7.00** Granada Tonight (721638) **7.30-8.00** New Voices: The King of Farawenia (299) **10.30-10.40** Granada News (743541) **11.40-12.40am** Time Trax (605909) **4.10-5.00** Jobfinder (2023145)

HTV WEST

As London except: 9.55-10.00 HTV West Headlines (3381134) **12.20pm-12.30** HTV West News and Weather (8683909) **12.55** Shortland Street (5750909) **1.20** Wish You Were Here...? (44516102) **2.50-3.20** The New Mr & Mrs Show (5662270) **3.25-3.30** HTV West Headlines (8156928) **5.10-5.40** Roadrunner (2538928) **6.30-7.00** HTV News (265) **7.30-8.00** Fair's Fair (299) **10.30-10.40** HTV West Headlines and Weather (743541) **4.10am** Jobfinder (2023145)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: 3.25-3.30 HTV Wales News (8156928) **5.10-5.40** Designed by Emanuel (2538928) **6.30-7.00** Wales Tonight (265) **7.30-8.00** The Really Helpful Programme (299) **10.30-10.40** HTV Wales News and Weather (743541)

MERIDIAN

As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Meridian News and Weather (3381134) **12.20pm-12.30** Meridian News and Weather (8683909) **12.55** Emmerdale (2426638) **1.25-1.55** Home and Away (44515473) **2.50-3.20** Shortland Street (5662270) **3.25-3.30** Meridian News and Weather (8156928) **5.10** Home and Away (2538928) **5.37-5.40** Three Minutes - Making it Happen (755744) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (783) **6.30-7.00** What's My Line? (265) **7.30-8.00** The Vet (299) **10.30-10.40** Meridian News and Weather (743541) **12.40am** Film: The Murder That Wouldn't Die (289110) **2.15** The Little Picture Show (636077) **3.15** The Beat (2685684) **4.05** The New Music (9335665) **5.00** Freescreen (52987)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 12.55 Emmerdale (2426638) **1.25** Home and Away (44515473) **1.55-2.20** The Young Doctors (96243034) **2.50-3.20** A Country Practice (5662270) **3.25-3.30** Westcountry News (8156928) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (2538928) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (24015) **7.30-8.00** South Crofty (299) **10.30-10.40** Westcountry News; Weather (743541) **4.10am** Jobfinder (2023145)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 12.55 Emmerdale (2426638) **1.25-1.55** Home and Away (44515473) **2.50** Shortland Street (2398893) **3.15-3.20** Gardening Time (8150744) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (2538928) **5.55** Calendar (189201) **6.30-7.00** Blockbusters (265) **7.30-8.00** The Local Angle (299) **11.40** Film: Up the Front (609096) **1.20am** The Little Picture Show (8903077) **2.20** Sport AM (4728677) **3.20** The Beat (7695706) **4.15** Jobfinder (8287110)

S4C

Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (45909) **9.00** Film: Thin Ice (7560386) **10.25** Film: My Lucky Star (42520454) **12.00pm** House To House (90560) **12.30** Gumdrop (14638) **1.00** Slot Meithrin Abc (48096) **1.30** J'Accuse. Christian Dior (13909) **2.00** 21st Century Jet (31218) **3.00** Love In The Afternoon (7812) **4.00** Think Tank (928) **4.30** Saved By The Bell: The New Class (812) **5.00** 5 Pump: Uned 5 (6102) **5.30** Fifteen To One (164) **6.00** Newyddion (484744) **6.15** Heno (451367) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (398893) **7.25** Glamocs (434003) **8.00** Bywyd Newydd Frank (2385) **8.30** Newyddion (1893) **9.00** Dim Tatod: Noson Y Gogs (1367) **10.00** Brookside (38919) **10.30** Rising Damp (84909) **11.00** Film: Running Delilah (720893) **12.40am** Witness: The Lie Detectors (4290428)

SATELLITE

● **For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday**

SKY ONE

7.00am DJ Kat (19928) **8.00** Power Rangers (15893) **8.30** Press Your Luck (14164) **9.00** Court TV (38744) **9.30** The Oprah Winfrey Show (14454) **10.30** Concentration (34928) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (98744) **12.00** Jeopardy (18980) **12.30pm** Designing Women (67744) **1.00** The Waltons (62299) **2.00** Geraldo (53454) **3.00** Court TV (7473) **3.30** Oprah Winfrey (8633541) **4.20** Undun (3796386) **4.45** Kipper Tripper (5872305) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (8725) **6.00** The Simpsons (5725) **6.30** Jeopardy (8305) **7.00** LAPD (9454) **7.30** M*A*S*H (5589) **8.00** Nowhere Man (92454) **9.00** Chicago Hope (12218) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (15305) **11.00** Law and Order (87909) **12.00** David Letterman (8179139) **12.45am** The Untouchables (6680690) **1.30** Rachel Gunn (98400) **2.00-6.00** Hit Mix (7012481)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour

6.00am Sunrise (9992305) **10.30** ABC Nightline (25270) **11.00** World News and Business (901522) **1.30pm** CBS News (54873) **2.30** Parliament Live (22164) **3.30** Parliament Live (7183) **4.00** World News and Business (74560) **5.00** Live at Five (27947) **6.30** Adam Boulton (91831) **8.30** Target (5251) **9.00** World News and Business (686541) **11.30** CBS News (52270) **12.30am** ABC News (20597) **1.30** Adam Boulton (76787) **2.30** Worldwide (34690) **3.30** Parliament Replay (46435) **4.30** CBS News (81459) **5.30-6.00** ABC News (71503)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Showcase (20657) **8.00 A Woman Rebels** (1936) (77034) **10.00 Young Ivanhoe** (1994) (51560) **12.00 The Lion** (1962) (87657) **2.00pm Mass Appeal** (1984) (56247) **4.00 Konrad** (1987) (3657) **6.00 Young Ivanhoe** (1994) (86893) **8.00 Family of Strangers** (1993) (98638) **10.00 Back in Action** (1994) (3945676) **11.25 Jason Goes to Hell: The Final Friday** (1993) (921812) **12.55am Bitter Harvest** (1993) (917961) **2.30 Fair Game** (1989) (3316232) **3.50-6.00 All Shook Up!** (1993) (12233771)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

4.00pm The Best of Benny Hill (1974) (2589) **6.00 West Point Story** (1950) (82015) **8.00 The Main Event** (1979) (87560) **10.00 Repo Man** (1984) (853560) **11.40 Belle de Jour** (1967) (434744) **1.20-3.50am Anne of the Thousand Days** (1969) (91226226)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am Mr Blandings Builds His Dream House (1948) (28299) **8.00 Dunderklumpen** (1973) (75676) **10.00 The Scarlet Blade** (1963) (69102) **12.00 Will Success Spoil Rock Hunter?** (1957) (65299) **2.00pm Mercy Mission: The Rescue of Flight 771** (1993) (56229) **4.00 Dunderklumpen** (1973) (1299) **6.00 Snowbound: The Jim and Jennifer Stolpa Story** (1993) (65560) **7.30 Special Feature** (8299) **8.00 Deadly Advice** (1993) (89980) **10.00 Mac** (1992) (56164) **12.00 After Midnight** (1989) (230684) **1.35am The Mighty Quinn** (1989) (163329) **3.15-5.15 Rubdown** (1993) (77918706)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

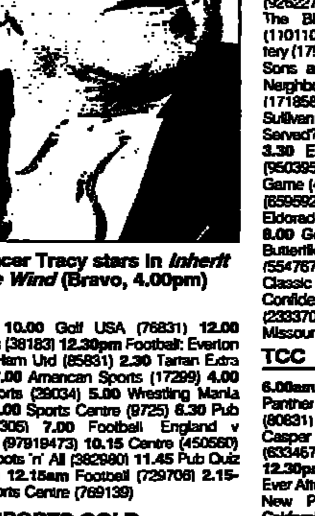
Sky Movies Gold from 10pm to 4am.
6.00am Under the Umbrella Tree (45588725) **6.30** Muppet Babies (33590184) **7.00** Winnie the Pooh (36353522) **7.30** Ducktales (36372657) **8.00** Chip 'n' Dale (29735454) **8.30** Wonderland (29734725) **9.00** Fraggle Rock (29758305) **9.30** Pooh Corner (63573909) **10.00** Dumbo's Circus (33514744) **10.30** Quack Attack (29754589) **11.00** Walt Disney Presents (36381305) **12.00** Boy Meets World (29738541) **12.30pm** Thunder Alley (63577725) **1.00** Flipper (63565980) **2.00** Wonderland (70301015) **2.30** Umbrella Tree (62399473) **3.00** Fraggle Rock (70380522) **3.30** Winnie the Pooh (62301218) **4.00** Quack Attack (62380725) **4.30** Ducktales (62386909) **5.00** Chip 'n' Dale (70392387) **5.30** Danger Bay (62300589) **6.00** Tarzan (62390102) **6.30** Dinosaurs (62381454) **7.00** Walt Disney Presents (68463589) **8.00** FILM: Muppet Christmas Carol (18273763) **9.30-10.00** Candlelight Ceremony (63597589)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Skiing (28034) **8.30** Extreme (29015) **9.30** Tennis (52638) **10.30** Football (36102) **12.30pm** Speedworld (52251) **1.00** Eurofun **1.30** Snowboarding (51522) **2.00** Mountainbike (5464218) **2.40** Skiing (7908473) **3.10** Windsurfing (3567367) **3.40** Eurofun (9617299) **4.10** Extreme (1412725) **5.10** Football (8225725) **6.30** News **7.00** Motors (10251) **9.00** Boxing (42473) **11.00** Extreme (49763) **12.00-12.30am** News

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Sports Centre (45947) **7.30** Racing (24454) **8.00** American Sports (41541) **9.00** Aerobics Oz Style (58947) **9.30** Tartan Extra (63367) **10.00** Golf USA (76831) **12.00** Aerobics (38183) **12.30pm** Football: Everton v West Ham Utd (85831) **2.30** Tartan Extra (8096) **3.00** American Sports (17299) **4.00** Watersports (28034) **5.00** Wrestling Mania (4541) **6.00** Sports Centre (9725) **6.30** Pub Quiz (3305) **7.00** Football: England v Portugal (97919473) **10.15** Centre (450560) **10.45** Boots 'n' All (382980) **11.45** Pub Quiz (455015) **12.15am** Football (729706) **2.15-2.45** Sports Centre (769139)



Spencer Tracy stars in *Inherit the Wind* (Bravo, 4.00pm)

SKY SPORTS GOLD

10.00pm World Cup Hall of Fame (2154299) **10.30** Golden Gloves (1625454) **11.30-1.00am** Superstars (7220270)

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Our Century (1464763) **5.00** Alive (4452034) **6.00-7.00** Biography: Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid (2434676)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

7.00pm Swamp Thing (4453763) **7.30** FILM: Alien (2911541) **10.00** Close (9357589) **1.00am** Swamp Thing (1563145) **1.30-4.00** FILM: Alien (5880495)

TLC

9.00am Toycraft (9283763) **9.30** Madeleine Cooks (1109744) **10.00** Grow Your Greens (6460744) **10.30** Will It Hurt? (9289947) **11.00** Only Human (1705015) **12.00** The Right Thing? (8270299) **12.30pm** Jimmy's (1103560) **1.00** Madeleine Cooks (1709831) **1.30** Toycraft (1102831) **2.00** Park High (7184638) **2.30** Soul Mates (8730218) **3.00** Grow Your Greens (7196473) **3.30-4.00** Green Fingers (8735763)

UK GOLD

7.00am Angels (1719218) **7.30** Neighbours (1798725) **8.00** Sons And Daughters (9262270) **8.30** EastEnders (9261541) **9.00** The Bill (9252893) **9.30** The Sullivans (1101102) **10.00** A Dorothy L Sayers Mystery (1794909) **11.00** Dallas (1707473) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (9272657) **12.30pm** Neighbours (1112218) **1.00** EastEnders (1718589) **1.30** The Bill (1111589) **2.00** The Sullivans (81147811) **2.25** Are You Being Served? (3292473) **3.00** Angels (7198831) **3.30** Eldorado (8704893) **4.00** Casualty (95039522) **5.05** Larry Grayson's Generation Game (41356812) **6.15** Kenny's Comic Cuts (6595928) **6.25** EastEnders (2148676) **7.00** Eldorado (7180812) **7.30** Taxi (8713541) **8.00** George and Mildred (2454251) **8.25** Butterflies (1912305) **9.00** Danger UXB (5547676) **10.00** The Bill (6395589) **10.35** Classic Sport (75711909) **11.40** Carrott Confidential (3896676) **12.25am** Dr Who (2333706) **12.55** FILM: Across the Wide Missouri (61355348) **2.15** Shopping at Night

TCC

6.00am Casper (23034) **7.00** The New Pink Panther Show (78096) **7.30** Ready or Not (80831) **8.00** Sweet Valley High (91678) **8.30** Casper (6306893) **8.45** Dinobabies (6334676) **9.00** Tiny TCC (8085386) **12.30pm** Tiny TCC (27831) **2.30** Happily Ever After (2454) **3.00** Sonic (4947) **3.30** The New Pink Panther Show (4299) **4.00** California Dreams (8034) **4.30-5.00** Sweet Valley High (2218)

NICKELODEON

6.00am Blue (82251) **6.30** Count Duckula (69283) **7.00** Batfink (1795270) **7.05** Hero Turtles (3733909) **7.45** Rugrats (753034) **8.15** Doug (822638) **8.45** Rocko (5548589) **9.00** Alvin (56589) **9.30** Pee-Wee (61909) **10.00** Banana Sandwich (11980) **11.00** Children's BBC (31744) **12.00** Rocko (36725) **12.30pm** Real Monsters (65725) **1.00** Ship to Shore (35560) **1.30** Mighty Max (64096) **2.00** Speed Racer (9096) **2.30** Galaxy (8638) **3.00** Count Duckula (1831) **3.30** Pet Shop (1183) **4.00** Hero Turtles (9378) **4.30** Rugrats (9102) **5.00** Clarissa (3676) **5.30** Fish and Chips (9134) **6.00** Doug (7367) **6.30** Are You Afraid? (74541) **7.30-8.00** Nancy Drew (4201)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Urban Wildlife (1160367) **5.00** Legends of History (7187725) **6.00** Invention (8731947) **6.30** Beyond 2000 (1659725) **7.30** Human/Nature (8711183) **8.00** Azimuth (5525454) **9.00** State of Alert (1159251) **9.30** On the Road Again (1190096) **10.00** The Driven Man (5548305) **11.00-12.00** Discovery Journal (1786980)

BRAVO

12.00 FILM: Plan 9 from Outer Space (29470748) **1.20pm** Honey West (1875386) **2.00** Danger Man (6465299) **3.00** Scotland Yard (7190299) **3.30** Interpol (8739589) **4.00** FILM: Inherit the Wind (5683183) **6.30** Department S (1646251) **7.30** The Protectors (8715909) **8.00** Space 1999 (5512980) **9.00** FILM: The Beastmaster (17656218) **11.25-12.00** Superman (3578183)

PARAMOUNT

8.00pm Entertainment Tonight (4327) **8.30** I Love Lucy (3834) **9.00** Mr President (96899) **9.30** Laverne and Shirley (77940) **10.00** Entertainment Tonight (49679) **10.30** Frontline (58327) **11.00** Bob (46394) **11.30** Ren (91018) **12.00** Entertainment (97709) **12.30am** I Love Lucy (69438) **1.00** Mr President (56148) **1.30** Laverne (84419) **2.00** Entertainment (85167) **2.30** Frontline (97902) **3.00** Bob (69612) **3.30-4.00** Ren (88254)

UK LIVING

6.00am Agony Hour (7541831) **7.00** Living Magazine (6339473) **9.00** Mr Smith's Indoor Garden (2231928) **9.30** Kate and Allie (5327980) **10.00** Hearts of Gold (1948218) **10.50** Entertainment Now! **11.00** The Young and the Restless (3102096) **11.55** Food and Drink (8255928) **12.30pm** Brookside (5787218) **1.05** Kilroy (1223725) **2.00** Agony Hour (4218589) **3.00** Living Magazine (4958893) **4.00** Infatuation UK (8697522) **4.30** Crosswits (7741386) **5.05** The Joker's Wild (59555454) **5.30** Bewitched (8617386) **6.00** Esther (8614299) **6.30** Brookside (6092831) **7.05** Jerry Springer (7360473) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (4507893) **9.00** FILM: Home of Angels (27903183) **10.50** Entertainment Now (5454034) **11.00-12.00** Dangerous Women (6326909)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm The Wonder Years (6164) **5.30** Tintin (6270) **6.00** Batman (3183) **6.30** Catchphrase (7763) **7.00** Through The Keyhole (6928) **7.30** My Two Dads (3947) **8.00** Mystery Movie (90034) **10.00** All Clued Up (62164) **10.30** Neon Rider (68928) **11.30** Batman (38980) **12.00** Adventures of Tintin (52418) **12.30am** Concentration (37665) **1.00** Zorro (33023) **1.30** Rhoda (76226) **2.00** Neon Rider (80145) **3.00** Rhoda (26787) **3.30** Zorro (12619) **4.00** The Wonder Years (20684) **4.30-5.00** The Black Stallion (27416)

MTV

6.30am The Grind (50102) **7.00** 3 from 1 (8507473) **7.15** Awake (4147034) **8.00** Music Videos (471831) **10.30** Rockumentary (72541) **11.00** Soul (75909) **12.00** Hits (11928) **1.00pm** Music Non-Stop (45963873) **2.45** 3 from 1 (3817947) **3.00** Cinematic (8933947) **3.15** Hanging Out (7366473) **4.00** News (2633541) **4.15** Hanging Out (2623164) **4.30** Dial MTV (4676) **5.00** The Worst of Most Wanted (8522) **5.30** Hanging Out/Dance (59305) **6.30** Sports (6893) **7.00** Hits (89928) **8.00** Most Wanted (46292) **9.30** Beavis and Butthead (12657) **10.00** News (421676) **10.15** Cinematic **10.30** Real World London (73270) **11.00** The End? (50909) **12.30am** Videos (9807400)

VH-1

7.00am Power Breakfast (2979837) **9.00** Café (1305589) **12.00** Heart and Soul (2407522) **1.00pm** Vinyl (2416270) **2.00** Robert Palmer (9388164) **3.00** Into the Music (3316170) **6.00** Housemartins (2436034) **7.00** VH-1 for You (6634909) **8.00** Review (6643657) **9.00** Jim Bowen (6823893) **10.00** The Vinyl Years (6626980) **11.00** Tommy Vance (8807164) **1.00am** Peter Hook (1520955) **2.00** Dawn Patrol

ZEE TV

7.00am Asian Morning (11022763) **8.30** Countdown to the Cricket World Cup (51395134) **9.00** Gujarati FILM (76042928) **12.00** Dekh Bhal Dekh (57795170) **12.30pm** Banegi Apni Baat (62446386) **1.00** Hindi FILM: Tyaag (25425102) **4.00** Doosra Kewal (21655980) **4.30** Nukkad (21651164) **5.00** Zee Zone **5.30** Ennodu Oru Naal (21675744) **6.00** India Business Report (21672657) **6.30** Zee and U (21663909) **7.00** Tanheyan (89386522) **8.00** News **8.30** Antakshari (59678299) **9.00-12.00** Hindi FILM: Police Public (72637247)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Cartoons from 5am to 8pm; TNT films. **7.00pm My Brother Talks to Horses** (1946) (36371928) **9.00 Old Acquaintance** (1943) (68440638) **11.00 Rich and Famous** (1981) (96347676) **1.00am Don't Go Near the Water** (1957) (57970868) **2.50-5.00 Come Fly With Me** (1963) (15253042)

CNN/QVC

CNN provides 24-hour news and QVC is the home shopping channel.

Injuries force Venables to opt for new strike partnership

Ferdinand gets England chance

By Rob Hughes
Football Correspondent

LES FERDINAND and Alan Shearer, the two supreme goalscoring athletes of English league football, both play in the nation's attack for the international at Wembley against Portugal tonight. The Portuguese, whom Terry Venables, the England coach, regards as among the four most gifted countries in Europe, oppose this double-pronged attack, by choice, with their second-string goalkeeper, and without one of their four marvellous creative midfield players.

At least that should make the struggle more equal. Ferdinand has been out in the cold for two years, apart from being granted nine minutes as Shearer's substitute 15 months ago in a match against the United States. They have never played together as a pair, they share 41 goals for Newcastle United and Blackburn Rovers in the first half of this season, but it is not public demand that brings them together. Rather it is that injuries to four of the team that beat Switzerland 3-1 last month force Venables to rethink the strategy and the style tonight; the most significant injury is the sciatica which pains Teddy Sheringham, coming at the very height of his acceptance as an England international.

So, though nothing is known about the formation behind Ferdinand and Shearer, this pair is in harness at last. It is as if one took two handsome Clydesdales, coupled them together, but left everyone pondering who is to feed them, who is to rein them in, who is to forage and provide their opportunities.

Perhaps not even Venables knows for certain. When injuries deprived him of David Platt, Robert Lee and Jamie Redknapp, three instrumental midfield players, the shape that he has been fashioning England towards, the continental version of variations on 3-5-2, was stripped from him.

He spent Sunday, "mad Sunday" as he called it, feeling the exasperation that England managers before him knew as habit; the telephone ringing, the squad becoming decimated, the shape of things before the FA negotiated time off from the league programme even before internationals outside of tournament play. "It must be obvious I am having to think on my feet," the coach said, "but we may have similar situations during the European championship, we may have to change tactics to the personnel available, so this is a good test.

"With two strikers, we will have to play a bit narrower. Both will have licence to move wide or deep as they see fit." Shearer is hungry to score for the first time in ten internationals and Ferdinand's desire to add to his three goals in seven appearances for England is palpable.

"This is his match," Venables said of Ferdinand. "This is his opportunity, and every player who gets an opportunity at this time, when I am seeking a settled squad for the European championship, has to make the most of it. Of course there's pressure on Les, but he wouldn't be in the squad if I didn't think he and Alan Shearer could play together. Being picked for England means he's a good player; one of the things that makes the difference is how you handle pressure."

The pressure, if that word is acceptable in the privileged world of multi-million pound performers, has been handled with convincing authority by Ferdinand since his £6 million move to Newcastle. He knows England will provide nothing like the wing play, the provision that has flowed right and left from Keith Gillespie and David Ginola.

Indeed whether Steve Stone, that stalwart of Nottingham Forest's right wing, is fit to make his full England debut, may be one of the things Venables will ponder about over the cornflakes. For Stone revealed on Sunday, after scoring a spectacular right-footed goal for Forest, that for some time, he has been hiding the pain, the need for anti-inflammatory tablets, for a left knee that swells with every game. In addition, Steve Howey, who is expected to step in for Gary Pallister, is another who spends the time between matches with the ice pack applied to a niggling stress injury.

Fitness of the mind is at least as important as that of the body at this level. Paul Gascoigne has much to prove, after his nonsensical antics and his sending-off in his last game for Rangers and, despite his ability to pass the ball more creatively than any other Englishman, there is always a need for someone else to police him, to spot the signals before he loses self-control. The mind boggles at the prospect tonight of that "minder" being Dennis Wise.

The Chelsea player has lately taken responsibility for an in-field role, taken games by the scruff of the neck, suggested at least that his own volatile nature is becoming controllable. Can he be the man to trust at Gascoigne's side?

Or should it be Gareth Southgate, the Aston Villa defender whose adaptability, either in a back three, back four, or midfield, has impressed progressively through this season? These questions will be posed by a Portuguese team that will not like the weather, that comes without Vitor Baia because Portugal's coach, Antonio Oliveira, wishes to test the substitute goalkeeper, Adelino Neno, and without Rui Costa's wiles in midfield because Fiorentina will not release him.

Whelan moves, page 43
Highest office, page 43



Ferdinand, left, and Shearer, show their delight at the prospect of forming a potent strike force for England. Photograph: Ian Stewart

Charlton is still buoyant despite loss of injured Staunton

By Peter Ball

IRELAND'S preparations for the European championship play-off against Holland at Anfield tomorrow suffered another setback yesterday when Steve Staunton pulled a hamstring in training. With Roy Keane ruled out at the weekend, this means that Ireland have lost two of their first-choice midfield players.

However, the Ireland manager, Jack Charlton, took the news philosophically. "He is not the strong player we know," he said. "He has not been playing very much this year. He has been carrying injuries and this may be the best thing that's happened to him.

"We are in better shape for this game than the game against Portugal, because we have one or two players back. Sheridan is moving very well and looking very sharp, and we have Townsend back which is a big bonus, because he will stir a few up.

"Against Portugal we had to cope with two young lads, McAteer and Kennedy, playing out wide, and another relative newcomer in Kenna playing in central midfield. Even then we held them for 70 minutes. Now we can play Kenna, who is a very good, competitive player, in what I think is his best position, wide right."

That suggests that there will be no place in the team for McAteer, although there were indications yesterday that Charlton may have decided to play a five-man midfield tomorrow, leaving out Aldridge, the team's leading goalscorer.

Charlton indicated yesterday that Tony Cascarino would replace Niall Quinn, centre forward, who is suspended. Many would regard that as a serious loss, given Quinn's recent form for Manchester City; Charlton remained unconcerned.

"Tony is probably playing better than Niall at the moment," he insisted. "Tony is a big, strong lad, and his touch is better now, perhaps from playing in France."

Dennis Bergkamp, the Holland striker, is confident of recovering from a calf injury in time to play. The Holland coach, Gus Hiddink, said: "We are very hopeful Dennis will be fit. He is keen to play in such an important game."

Fifa hands Hauge ban from transfer dealing

By Our Sports Staff

RUNE HAUGE, the Norwegian football agent, was banned indefinitely from any involvement in transfer dealings by Fifa, the game's world governing body, yesterday. Fifa also warned players, clubs and national football associations that they would face punishment if they had any future involvement with him.

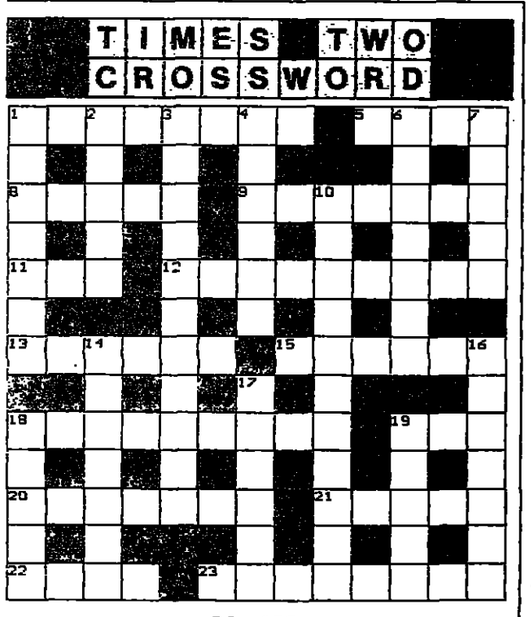
Hauge was suspended from Fifa's list of licenced players' agents earlier this year because he made unauthorised payments totalling £440,000 to George Graham, the former Arsenal manager, after the transfers to the club of Pal Lydersen, of Norway, and John Jensen, the Denmark midfield player. Graham subsequently repaid the money to Arsenal, but none the less lost his job and incurred a 12-month suspension from the Football Association.

Hauge, however, has appeared to ignore his ban, using an intermediary to become involved in the £840,000 transfer of the Swedish international defender, Pontus Kamark, to Leicester City from IFK Gothenburg and advising Lars Bohinen, the Norway midfield player, over his move from Nottingham Forest to Blackburn Rovers through a Danish intermediary, Frank Mathiesen.

Keith Cooper, the Fifa spokesman, said that the decision to withdraw Hauge's licence had been taken by the organisation's executive committee yesterday. "We have paid special attention to the situation regarding Rune Hauge," he said. "His licence was suspended some months ago when it was discovered he was implicated in the affair concerning George Graham. Since then, he has been officially suspended from transfer activities, but it has become evident that during his suspension he has continued to operate, even if through an intermediary, in the transfer of players despite his suspension.

"We will not take any action against players or clubs who have used Hauge during the period of his suspension, but we are making it clear that in future any individuals or clubs who avoid our decisions will face the consequences themselves."

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 650

ACROSS
1 Panicky rush (8)
5 Memorial service (4)
8 External (5)
9 Flood through (7)
11 Yes, that is printed right (3)
12 Drunken yob (5,4)
13 Cooking instructions (6)
15 Accustomed, hardened (to) (6)
18 With great, sincere emotion (9)
19 Post-USSR grouping (1,1,1)
20 One-direction-only toothed wheel (7)
21 Subcontinent republic (5)
22 Royal house of eg Richard III (4)
23 Intensify (8)

DOWN
1 Promoter, funder (7)
2 Loft (5)
3 Rich piece of writing; successful period (6,5)
4 (Drug) amount per period (6)
6 Lady's private room (7)
7 Deal with; indulgence (5)
10 My first objection is (3,3,5)
14 Document of incorporation (7)
16 Contemptuous rejection (7)
17 Condition, usu. fine (6)
18 Go quickly (5)
19 Trainee officer (5)

SOLUTION TO No 649
ACROSS: 5 Open sandwich 8 Adjoin 9 Impart 10 Honk 12 Viceroy 14 Rustler 15 Heir 17 Advice 18 Occupy 20 Frontispiece
DOWN: 1 Cold-shoulder 2 Veto 3 Inhibit 4 Two-piece 6 Sink 7 Cartographer 11 Nutrient 13 Benefit 16 Pump 19 Chew

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RFU keen to break impasse on contracts

By David Hands
Rugby Correspondent

WHILE Twickenham is floodlit for the first time for the University match today, the Rugby Football Union (RFU) must hope that some light will also be thrown this week on the contractual arrangements it seeks to reach with its leading players.

As long as the England-squad contracts remain unsigned, the RFU must take seriously the potential threat posed by Ross Turnbull, the Australian said to be organising a European super league. Turnbull, who was associated with Kerry Packer's still-born World Rugby Championship, is understood to be offering players £200,000 to participate in a summer tournament played in the five nations and Italy.

Such a threat is a useful bargaining tool, as the South African and Australian players discovered six months ago, and it may also suit England's leading clubs to build up Turnbull as a bogeyman.

The reverse of that coin is the situation at Northampton, whose players must feel happier now that a local businessman, Keith Barwell, has in effect bought the club for £1 million. Club members voted almost unanimously — 661 votes to one — on Sunday to approve Barwell's offer.

Saracens have secured their first big-name capture. Eddie Halvey, a flanker capped six times by Ireland, has signed a three-year contract.

Oxford underdogs, page 46

England ready to reward Ilott for perseverance

From Alan Lee, Cricket Correspondent, in Durban

THE England tour manager, Raymond Illingworth, is keen to have Mark Ilott in his team for the pivotal third Test, which begins here on Thursday. This is not entirely due to the fact that the incessant prattling of the team chatterbox is inclined to drive Illingworth from the dressing-room with his head reeling.

Ilott is the irrepressible, life-and-soul type that every team needs. On the odd occasion when he is not talking, Ilott is invariably singing, surprisingly tunefully. When included for the match at Paarl last week, he cheerfully related the manager's mock disclaimer that he had only picked him so he would no longer have to listen to him.

There are others in this party with the prankster's sense of fun but none whose nature and outlook seem so utterly impervious to fate or circumstance. And if the black moods of dismay are ever pardonable in a team environment, Ilott has recently had as much cause to mope as anyone.

He made his Test debut as a 22-year-old and played three times against the 1993 Australians. His last Test, remarkably, was Michael Atherton's first as captain. Since then, England have completed 25 Tests and five series without him, yet he has constantly been on the brink of a recall and now, for four Tests in succession, he has been omitted from a 13-man squad on the morning of the match. It would be enough to exhaust the resilience of many, yet Ilott remains his bright, noisy and phlegmatic self.

These are qualities that he has inherited from his immediate predecessor as the Essex left-armer, John Lever. But they were also passed down by his father, John, who, well into middle-age, exuded boyish enthusiasm as a club wicket-keeper — and, in winter, a football goalkeeper — in the Watford area where Mark grew up.

Ilott was a natural inmate of the traditionally zany Essex dressing-room, even if his tendency to talk all the time did seem annoyingly precocious to certain senior players. They nicknamed him "Ramble" and soon grew fond of him. He was barely out of his teens when Keith Fletcher predicted a Test career for him and, despite its stuttering start, he was right.

When England landed here yesterday and settled into their hotel overlooking the surf and sands of the holiday beaches, Ilott was closer to a fresh chance than ever. Ironically, he spent the afternoon strolling companionably by the sea with Darren Gough and Peter Martin. It is Gough's place in the Test side that has fallen vacant and it is Martin who provides Ilott's main competition for it.

Reports that the Kingsmead pitch will be well-grassed, and that it has quickened in pace under the influence of the Natal coach, Malcolm Marshall, mean England are provisionally inclined towards playing four seam bowlers. They know the risks — and Atherton will not lightly put South Africa into bat again — but in this, of all places, it might be the best route to victory.

Martin, the modest, genial Lancastrian who won a place in this part only because of Richard Johnson's back condition, has bowled some impressive spells of late. He also possesses a genuine outswinger, in conditions likely to suit it. But Ilott's virtue, a potentially decisive one, is that within a one-dimensional attack he at least offers the variety of a left-armer's angle.

He, too, has bowled well on tour and Illingworth suspects that the requirement to sustain accuracy for upwards of 20 overs in a Test match day is more likely to be fulfilled by Ilott than Martin. Nothing is finalised, and experience has instructed him to take nothing for granted, but Ilott's long wait for a second opportunity at the highest level may soon be over.

Familiar fear 44
Landmark for Warne 44
Mushtaq's wizardry 44



Ilott: adds variety

